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Extra burden urged for motorists

# Plan to tax supermarket car parking

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

SUPERMARKET and hospital car parks have become the latest target in the Government's campaign to curb car use and raise money for public transport.

A leaked document suggests that a £100 charge should be imposed on all free public parking spaces — not only those provided by city companies as had already been suggested.

The proposal, put forward in a working document as part of the transport White Paper expected in May, comes as motorists face the prospect of a string of new taxes and charges. The Chancellor is expected to increase the price of petrol by at least 20p a gallon in the Budget next week and to penalise company car drivers.

Ministers are also drawing up plans to allow local councils to charge drivers who use the most congested areas — although this is seen as a longer-term option.

There are estimated to be three million free workplace parking spaces and three and a half million more "visitor" spaces at shops, hospitals and other sites throughout Britain, so that the proposed charge could raise £650 million. The money would probably be levied voluntarily by local councils — which would be allowed to keep most of the money to improve public transport — but a blanket national charge has not been ruled out.

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister who is responsible for transport and environment matters, is believed to have won a battle with the Treasury to ensure that any money raised is spent on public transport. But there are still discussions about how much councils should be allowed to keep and the Treasury is likely to ask for the proportion to be reduced as public transport improves. Ministers are also discuss-



ing the possibility of exemptions, such as rural businesses or those with fewer than 20 car parking spaces, although they recognise the difficulties in defining a "rural" area.

Retailers and businesses gave a warning last night, however, that the extra cost would almost certainly mean higher prices for customers.

And Sir Norman Fowler, the Conservative transport spokesman, described the proposals as a "tax on business and drivers". "The real danger is that the tax increases will be introduced before any improvements in public transport have been made," he said. Peter Lilley, the Shadow Chancellor, had earlier told MPs that the Government's taxation policy had shown that it did not care about rural areas where cars were a necessity, not a luxury.

Ann Robinson, director-general of the British Retail Consortium, accused ministers of planning "outrageous backdoor taxes that will push up the price of shopping for millions of people". The consortium estimates that a £100 charge on each space would add £11.44 a year to the average shopping bill.

Research for the consortium suggests that less than 5 per cent of traffic congestion is caused by shoppers and Ms Robinson said: "This is a

diabolical charge which is not aimed at cutting congestion, but simply raising more money. If that's what the Government wants to do, then let them be honest about it."

A report by the Confederation of British Industry this week also said that increased charges on business, without investment in measures to curb congestion, would lead to higher costs that business would have to pass on to customers.

And Edmund King, head of campaigns at the RAC, said: "The Government has to be very careful about parking charges. Such charges could push shops and offices out of town and that could, ironically, lead to longer journeys, more pollution and more congestion."

However, a survey conducted to see how London-based companies would react to a tax on workplace parking suggests that up to 80 per cent would regard a £1,000 per space charge as acceptable if the money were invested in public transport. Half of those would be willing to absorb the charge, while the others would pass on the charge to their staff.

Fewer than one in ten questioned in the survey conducted by London First, which represents 400 large businesses in the capital, said that a charge would prompt them to move out of the city. Local councils are, in fact, already collecting hundreds of millions of pounds in taxes on parking spaces through the uniform business rate — although most businesses are unaware that the charge relates to parking.

The CBI has cut its rates bill by £10,000 by getting rid of half of the 66 spaces at its Central London headquarters. The CBI has also called for the car park charge to be specified in all rates bills so that companies can see exactly how much they are costing.



Sir Paul and Lady Getty after yesterday's investiture at Buckingham Palace

# Getty: proud to be British

By ALAN HAMILTON

FOR J. Paul Getty Jr the twilight years are ended. As of noon yesterday, he is a fully fledged knight of the realm.

After his investiture at Buckingham Palace Sir Paul, 65, and anglophilia oozing from every seam of his morning suit, stood in the freezing, windy palace courtyard outside the picture gallery, where yesterday's ceremony was held because of last week's collapse of part of the ceiling of the usual venue. He said: "When I heard the National Anthem played at the begin-

ning of the ceremony, I felt very proud to be British; it's my National Anthem now."

American-born Sir Paul, the son of a man branded the world's richest miser, has given an estimated £140 million to the cause of culture, much of it British.

Twelve years ago he went to the Palace with Bob Geldof to receive an honorary KBE. Like Mr Geldof, he was not a British citizen; his knighthood remained honorary, and he could not call himself "Sir Paul". But last December he

was granted the citizenship of his heart's desire and he returned to the Palace yesterday to have the Queen dub his shoulders in full knighthood.

Sir Paul, 65, who inherited his father's oil wealth and who experienced a period of drug addiction, was accompanied by his third wife, Virginia, his son Mark, and his close friend Christopher Gibbs. He said: "The Queen dubbed me and said: 'Now you can use your title; that's nice.'"

Leading article, page 17

# 'Enemy within' is blamed for putting Prescott through hell

By PHILIP WEBSTER, NICHOLAS WATT, DOMINIC KENNEDY AND STEPHEN FARRELL

LABOUR'S council leader in Hull said last night that the campaign of harassment against the Deputy Prime Minister was being led by the "enemy within."

As pressure mounted for a full police investigation into an affair that Mr Prescott said had put his family through hell, the Hull Labour Party was on the verge of open warfare. Pat Doyle, the leader of Hull City Council, said: "There is a Get Prescott campaign. There is also a Get the Labour Party in Hull campaign. There is a destabilisation campaign led by, if you like, the enemy within."

Meanwhile The Times has learnt that Lord Randall of St Budeaux, a former Labour MP for Hull West, decided to stand down just weeks before the last election because he could no longer take the campaign of vilification and intimidation against him from members of the local party.

Mr Prescott's accusations of a vendetta — delivered in remarks to The Times yesterday — turned the spotlight on the troubled politics of Hull, where the local party has been suspended because of claims of impropriety, irregularity in expenses claims and child abuse.

Humberstone Police confirmed that they had investigated the theft of bank statements from a dustbin outside Mr Prescott's home and a break-in at his garage. Both remain unsolved. They also confirmed that they were aware that various people had levelled allegations against him. A spokesman said one councillor in the city had reported receiving a file containing allegations about him.

Mr Prescott's allies believe that he may be the victim of enemies hitting back at him because of his part in the suspension of the local party. But he was furious at what he saw as an attempt to get at him through attacks on his son, Jonathan, over his role in property deals in the city. Mr Prescott said: "If they've got a disagreement with me, come at me. I will take knocks in my life. But don't start going for my family. That is totally unacceptable."

Harry Woodford, Mr Prescott's constituency agent, said he had received a series of anonymous telephone calls making allegations about Mr Prescott and his family. "I do believe there is a vendetta. I have received calls about John and his family, allegations about housing deals involving Mr Prescott's son, but there is nothing in any of it, there's nothing to find, no dirt to be had," Mr Woodford said.

Senior councillors are convinced the campaign was sparked by the party's suspension and Labour's decision nationally to take the selection of candidates out of local hands. Meanwhile, the business partner of John Prescott's son yesterday laid down a challenge to rival property developers in Hull who claim that he bought 20 houses at a knock-down price. Simon Cutting, the director of Wyke Property Services, spoke out after rivals in Hull said that the houses that he bought for an average of £5,300, were in fact worth £20,000. Mr Cutting said he would sell the houses for £20,000 to the property developers and donate the profits to a non-profit-making housing trust in Hull.

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# Two on Armagh murder charges

Two men will appear in court today charged with the murders of Philip Allen and Damien Trainor, shot dead in a pub in Poyntzpass, Co Armagh. Police said that the men, aged 26 and 28, were from Co Down. Page 2

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# It's 0171 for the man from spycatchers

By MICHAEL EVANS

MIS is no longer ex-directory. From yesterday afternoon, the security service made itself available on the telephone for the first time, although it wants terrorists, spies and serious criminals to get in touch, not ordinary members of the public.

The "MIS Phoneline", not a free phone but a London number, 0171 930 9000, is intended to provide a contact point for potential moles who might wish to impart secret intelligence to the service.

As soon as the phone line was announced in a written Commons answer by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, a special MIS staff was manning the confidential lines and offering to listen to anyone interested in doing business.

Mr Straw said: "The purpose of the Phoneline is to make it easier for people to pass on information which could help the service to do its work."

Serious callers will be treated with guaranteed confidentiality and follow-up meetings will be arranged when necessary, although MIS will be taking every precaution against being set up.

Although it was recognised that there might be unwanted calls, Stephen Lander, MIS director-general, decided that the potential advantages out-

weighed the risks of curious people ringing up.

Those who rang seeking information about the security service yesterday were told to write to MIS's postal address which is PO Box 325. This address was made public in 1993.

People calling the MIS phone number initially hear a recorded message from a man with a soft Home Counties accent which says: "This is the MIS Phoneline. If you have information which you want to give to the security service, please hold the line and an operator will speak to you."

The calls to MIS will be recorded and the phone lines will be manned initially from 7.30am to 11.30pm every day.

The phone number has been given to BT directory inquiries and anyone needing it will have to ask for MIS or the security service. Eventually it will appear in the London telephone directory.

Although MIS was not saying how many lines had been created for the calls, there are understood to be enough to deal with an initial surge. Once the novelty has worn off, MIS hopes that only serious informants will ring in. Scotland Yard's Anti-Terrorist Branch has a hotline number which has generated genuinely helpful calls.

# Crystal Palace bid for Gascoigne



Gascoigne: £15m man

PAUL GASCOIGNE has been offered the chance to return to English football with Crystal Palace after Rangers, his Scottish club, agreed to sell him for £3 million last night.

He has to accept the move and is due to meet Mark Goldberg, the prospective Palace chairman, next week. Mr Goldberg, who is involved in a £30 million takeover of the London club, would like Gascoigne, 30, to help in the fight against relegation from the FA Carling Premiership. He also hopes to persuade Terry Venables, the former England coach, to join Palace.

Venables, who worked closely with Gascoigne at Tottenham and with England, flew to Spain and is expected to have further discussions with Mr Goldberg. Page 40

# Jail inmate goes out to work for £30,000

By PAUL WILKINSON

PRISON officers have called for an inquiry into the case of a convicted fraudster who is earning £30,000 a year by going out to work from jail.

Graham Etson, who was sentenced to 21 months last year for defrauding Barclays Bank of £400,000, has a job which pays him more than most prison officers and even some junior prison governors. He drives a Ford Galaxy and uses a mobile phone. Five days a week he goes to an office in York where he puts in a full day's work before returning home to his cell. At weekends he visits his wife.

He is one of eight inmates at Wakefield Prison, near Wakefield, West Yorkshire, who are allowed to work locally as part of a resettle-ment scheme. Another is reported to have a full-time job earning £18,000 a year.

The prison staff are unhappy that the inmates are allowed to keep nearly all their earnings, paying just £24 a week for "board and lodging" and a deduction of 10p for every hour worked which is given to victim support.

Yesterday Nigel Hirst, Prison Officers' Association (POA) chairman at Wakefield, said: "It costs £24,000 a year to house a prisoner. This man should be made to pay for his keep and leave with the bal-

ance. Call me old-fashioned, but if someone has committed a crime they should be in here paying their debt to society. It is disgusting and morally wrong that this man will leave Wakefield at the end of his sentence with a huge nest-egg... Who says crime doesn't pay? It certainly does for this chap."

Brian Caton, the POA assistant general secretary, said: "I would hardly call this punishment and it seems that this man's sentence is a token gesture."

Stacey Tasker, Wakefield's governor, confirmed the inmate's income and travelling arrangements although she emphasised that he was "atypical". Most inmates working outside earned an average of £150 a week. Prisoners used their own cars to avoid the Prison Service paying for transport. Inmates were allowed to keep £15 a week as pocket money and the rest was placed in a bank account.

A prison officer said: "The cashier is tearing her hair out. She has to look after any money the prisoners bring in... Anyone would think we are a bank."

Prison governors' salaries range from an estimated £28,000 a year for a governor grade 5 to more than £48,000 for one in charge of a jail.

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INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS

# ... and now a word from our Foreign Manager

WE COULD have been watching Marks & Spencer trainees gathered for a briefing: *Retailing, Personnel Management and You*.

There they were, nearly 40 of them, gender-balance optimal: about 50/50. The men looked oddly similar. Almost all wore two-piece suits with three-button jackets, overwhelmingly single-breasted. Suits, wool or wool-viscose, varied from mid-grey to charcoal with a few pastels.

Shoes were polished slip-on with a sprinkling of Oxfords. Shirts were light, ties dark: M&S silk or polyester. There was only one beard, and few over 50. Hair was short, neat. Cufflinks were widespread. The women, none old and

none fat, were in two-piece suits, primary or pastel, with a bold lapel-brooch part of the uniform. Hair was carefully but never too formally arranged, make-up unobtrusive, handbags hardly seen. Shoes added height — but sensibly. Spectacles were rare among either sex. The era of the contact lens was upon all.

The lecturer was older, more careworn and less bland, but his language was business-management-speak. He was running through a Ten-point Action Plan for concerted action.

"Let me highlight four key objectives," he grunted, imaginary laser-pointer ready for the next slide. The audience listened carefully. The Action Plan and Key Objectives



- included an urgent review of:
  - Enhanced monitoring
  - Access
  - Supply of equipment
  - Investment and trade
  - Moratorium on credit
  - Freeze on funds
  - Enhanced co-operation
  - Visit by Rep from Manchester Central
  - Contact Group to meet again on March 25

These were most politely phrased, some thanking him at the outset for an interesting and impressive presentation. The more eager trainees urged the lecturer to push his analysis even further and consider the possibility of beefing up his Action Plan. But nobody had the temerity to question the reasoning which underlay the Key Objectives; few if any dared examine fundamentals; no one wished to make the speaker's job harder.

men and women felt very slightly out of their depth, were not disposed to rock the boat, and wanted to be noticed for their competence and helpfulness. Indeed, some sort of official at the speaker's side seemed to be hunched over what looked like a register, making the occasional note against a name when a trainee spoke.

I could visualise the car park outside the Stakis conference facility: P-registered Ford Mondeos or Rovers (bottom of range) neatly occupying bays framed by borders of wood-mulched, low-maintenance berberis, guarded by security lighting and CCTV. Except that outside was the roar of London traffic along Millbank. This was

Westminster. Our lecturer was Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary. The conference room was the Commons chamber. His audience were new Labour backbenchers. And his subject was the Serb massacre of Albanians in Kosovo and the Government's response thereto. Phrases like "51 corpses" rang strangely from amidst the corporate jargon.

There was one heckler. Martin Bell (Ind, Tatton) told Mr Cook that his proposed economic sanctions would be a cruel, possibly life-threatening, waste of time.

"That is a downside that must be fairly represented in any decision we take," burbled the Foreign Secretary.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Inspectors sacked for misconduct in schools

A dozen senior school inspectors have been dismissed for misconduct and 26 more are being investigated. Ofsted, the inspection agency, reported yesterday. The sacked inspectors — all registered team leaders — lost their jobs for offences including 'rudeness and failing to write a fair report'.

Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, said a newly-appointed external adjudicator will be able to award schools compensation for misleading reports.

### Halle chief quits

The finance director of the troubled Halle Orchestra has quit two weeks after he was suspended. Jack Whittaker, who was also company secretary of the debt-laden Halle Concerts Society, was said to have left "by mutual agreement" after an inquiry.

### Warship reprieve

Britain's last Second World War destroyer has been given a three-month reprieve from the scrapyard. MPs said HMS *Cavalier* should be saved without government money. South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council is to try to find a buyer.

### Railmen killed

Two workers were killed as they carried out maintenance on a railway line yesterday. The men died instantly when they were struck by the 0824 Wales and West Services train from Portsmouth to Swansea in South Wales at the Ebbw Junction near Newport.

### Husband cleared

A husband was cleared at Swansea Crown Court yesterday of repeatedly raping his wife. She admitted she consented to sex in between the alleged attacks. The husband said the false allegations had been made to end his claim for custody of their children.

### Fonteyn magic

A frayed pair of pink ballet shoes worn by Dame Margot Fonteyn in a 1958 production of *Sleeping Beauty*, valued at £200, were sold for £9,500 at Christie's yesterday. The auction, predominantly of her jewellery, raised £115,000 against an expected £40,000.

### Seaside breather

Britain's first oxygen bar, where customers pay about £2 for 20 minutes of deep breathing, will open at Fins in Blackpool if environmental health officials give clearance for the plan to offer a "pollution-beating, stress relieving, pure and natural high".

## Britain urged by Germans to try McAliskey

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent, and Roger Boyes

GERMANY yesterday asked Britain to prosecute Roisin McAliskey on alleged terrorist charges after the decision not to extradite her in connection with an IRA attack on an army base at Osnabruck.

The move was disclosed only minutes before Ms McAliskey's mother said it was unlikely that her daughter would ever make a complete recovery after suffering a mental breakdown.

Bernadette McAliskey said her daughter would walk with a limp for the rest of her life and told a press conference in London that they were planning to claim compensation from the British Government and Royal Ulster Constabulary for her ill health. The move to bring proceedings against Ms McAliskey in Britain was made as the German authorities made clear that it was unlikely the extradition request would be withdrawn.

A spokeswoman at the German Embassy said: "We have asked the British authorities to start proceedings against Roisin McAliskey." She would



McAliskey: "unlikely to make a full recovery"

not say whether the evidence gathered by the Germans on an IRA mortar attack at Osnabruck army base would be sent to Britain.

A Home Office spokesman said it had not yet received any request from Germany. Once a request was received the Government would decide whether it was under any international obligation. Ms McAliskey, 26, and her

baby, are at the Maudsley Hospital in London. Ms McAliskey suffers from post-natal depression, panic attacks and asthma.

Her mother, Bernadette McAliskey, the former independent nationalist MP for Mid Tyrone, visited her yesterday before denouncing her treatment at the hands of the RUC and in prison in Britain. She said that Ms McAliskey would eventually be transferred to Ireland but she said someone would be made accountable for the state of her daughter's health.

"These matters are not resolved by the ending of proceedings against Roisin. Someone is to blame."

Last night Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, said that allegations by Unionist and Conservative politicians that he had refused extradition for political reasons were "completely untrue".

Mr Straw commissioned Professor Jeremy Coid, a psychiatrist, to produce an independent report which, agreed with the clinical judgment of Ms McAliskey's own doctors.



Pulling power: a civil servant works out in the new Selbourne House gym, which cost £20,000

## Lord Chancellor's £20,000 new gym is fit for a cardinal

200 of his staff have signed up for exercise, although they can't wear skimpy gear, writes Valerie Elliott

THERE is no £300-a-roll Pugin wallpaper, yet with just pure matt emulsion the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg QC, boasts the swankiest gymnasium in Whitehall.

He and his staff are the envy of the civil service with their spanking new airy fitness centre built into the basement of the Lord Chancellor's department, in Selbourne House, Victoria.

News of the gym emerged last night following reports that a new fitness centre was on order for Jack Cunningham's smart new Ministry of Agriculture office at Nobel House and that Frank Dobson, Health Secretary, is thinking about one.

But the Lord Chancellor has already installed the latest fitness equipment. The gym opened just before

Christmas at a cost of some £20,000 and although Lord Irvine has not yet been spotted working out on the machines, more than 200 out of the 900 staff in his department have signed up.

The legal officials are not sworn to formal courtroom attire, but in keeping with the dignity of the Lord Chancellor's Department a strict "nothing skimpy" dress code has been imposed.

The room, 30 feet by 30 feet, is about a third of the size of the real tennis court in the grounds of Cardinal Wolsey's former home, Hampton

Court Palace, but it is equipped with 16 top-of-the-range machines supplied by Life Fitness.

Lord Irvine arrives at his office at 6.50 am each day and he could easily drop down to the basement for a work-out — it opens at 7 most mornings and stays open for the "after work" fitness fanatics until 7.30 pm each weekday evening.

All members must pass a fitness assessment before using the centre. For £14 a month members may choose between one of two treadmills, valued at

about £3,000 each, two £600 cycles, two £1,500 step machines, two £700 rowing machines, as well as a seated chest press, a lat pulldown, a seated leg extension, a seated leg curl, two adjustable benches, and a dumbbell rack — all worth about £1,500 each.

The facilities are cheaper than those on offer to MPs at the House of Commons — they pay about £220 annually or £260 if they pay monthly — while lowest price for the nearest private fitness club, the Living Well at the Millbank media centre is £45 a month.

Club members have taken out a loan from the Civil Service Sports Council Ltd, and after a year's free use, they will repay the supply costs in five annual instalments.

## Mortars fired at RUC base

By Martin Fletcher, Chief Ireland Correspondent

HARDLINE republicans stepped up their campaign to wreck the peace talks yesterday by mounting a mortar attack on Armagh's RUC station in the small hours of the morning.

No warning was given. No one admitted responsibility. The police said only the IRA had used mortars before, but insisted it was too early to attribute blame. Security

sources said disgruntled IRA men could have assisted either the Continuity IRA or the Irish National Liberation Army, the splinter groups behind recent republican bomb attacks.

Assistant Chief Constable Tom Craig said it was a miracle nobody was killed or injured. Mortars were highly erratic and "the absolute madness of firing them in this built-up area cannot be over-

stated... Those who sneaked into this city were out to cause mass murder."

Unionist MPs suspected the IRA, but Gerry Adams, Sinn Féin's president, said he did not believe the IRA was involved. Meanwhile it was announced that Tony Blair would meet Mr Adams at Number Ten tomorrow.

Leading article, page 17

## Drugs barons bring misery to prisoners

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

JAILS in England and Wales are in the grip of drug barons operating in every prison, the Chief Inspector of Prisons said yesterday.

Sir David Ramsbotham accused prison staff of turning a blind eye to as many as ten barons in each prison dealing in drugs including cannabis and heroin. He demanded that the Prison Service and Government adopt a much more aggressive approach to ward combating the use of illegal drugs in prisons.

In a report published today Sir David describes Glen Parva Young Offender Institution as a "monster" in which a cannabis joint costs £2, many young offenders feel unsafe and unconvicted inmates are deprived of fresh air and sunlight for 22 hours a day.

But Sir David's comments to MPs at a Home Affairs Select Committee provoked a furious response within Prison Service headquarters in London.

Tony Pearson, the deputy director of the service, said in a

statement that he "was saddened and astonished" at the remarks of the chief inspector. In private other officials dismissed his comments.

Sir David, who frequently clashed with ministers in the former Conservative government, told the committee that he believed as many as ten drug barons were operating in each of the nation's 140 jails. He said the barons wreaked misery in prisons, dominated and intimidated prisoners and drove inmates into debt.

Sir David said the prison drug problem had to be tackled much more aggressively. "The people who cause the misery are the drug barons, whom people know about. I would like to see them taken out. They intimidate others, they drive people into debt, they dominate the life of the prisons in a way which I think is totally unacceptable. While the barons are allowed to wreak their misery in the prisons, it undermines all the programmes everyone is trying to do."

## Blair spells out entente cordiale for French TV

By James Landale, Political Reporter

HE spent five months serving drinks in a Paris bar, holidays often in France and can deliver le *soubrette* as easily in French as in English.

But Tony Blair yesterday revealed that his much vaunted francophone skills desert him when it comes to complicated international diplomacy.

He told a French television programme that when he holds talks with President Chirac, and Lionel Jospin, the French Prime Minister, he speaks in English while they speak in French.

Mr Blair revealed the chink in his linguistic armour during a 45-minute interview with the national channel France 3 when he asked if he could speak in English while accepting questions in French.

"Peut-être je peux parler en Anglais?", he asked. "Je ne sais pas si je suis tout-à-fait capable de faire des sujets complexes. Alors, quand je parle avec Jacques Chirac et Lionel Jospin, moi je parle Anglais, et ils parlent Français. Je comprends très bien comme

ça." Fortunately, Christine Ockrent, the doyenne of French television presenters, speaks English.

Less tactfully, two British ministers taking part in the programme bravely battled on in French. Joyce Quin, the Prison Minister, spoke of Mr Blair's "grand popularité" and "un nouveau climat" in Britain. Lord Simon, the European Competition Minister, deftly handled questions about "l'économie ouverte".

Ms Ockrent, a sort of female Jeremy Paxman, had brought France Europe Express, her discussion programme on Europe, to London to examine the vital question "Tony Blair, les Anglais et nous. But were the French really that interested and would they watch the prime-time programme which goes out tonight at 8.50pm?"

"Of course," a French journalist said. "There is no football on. Last Wednesday we had Monaco against Manchester United and the second leg is not until next Wednesday."

## Vote of confidence for Times Editor

THE board of Times Newspapers Holdings Ltd yesterday gave a unanimous vote of confidence in Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*, with regard to the newspaper's coverage of China and Hong Kong.

The Independent National Directors, who sit on the board, held a

separate meeting and spoke with Mr Stothard about allegations that Rupert Murdoch, chairman and chief executive of The News Corporation, parent company of *The Times*, had suppressed criticism in *The Times* of the Chinese regime in contravention of undertakings he had given on editorial

independence. The Independent National Directors told the main board that they were completely satisfied there had been no breach of the undertakings. The Independent National Directors are Sir Alastair Burnet, John Gross, Baroness Brigstocke, Lord Harris of High Cross and Lord Maricford.

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Eagle

Woman saved by police in found dead

Countess's

# Eagle-eyed experts spot £4m bird book

**Thief stole his expensive haul sheet by sheet from a Russian Library, reports Matthew Barbour**

AN ILLUSTRATED book of birds worth £4 million was yesterday returned to its rightful owners after a worldwide police hunt.

The *Birds of America* by John James Audubon is the world's most valuable natural history book. There are only 100 copies worldwide, all of which contain the same 400 3ft by 2ft hand-painted engravings. The stolen book was taken sheet by sheet from the Russian National Library by Aleksandr Mamontov, a professional art thief, in November 1995.

Russian authorities, who did not notice the book's disappearance until they found the empty bindings weeks later, alerted the international art community, but it was not until last December that news of the work resurfaced.

The thief, who had been living in Germany and the US for two years, had delivered the illustrations to Christie's in Berlin for intended sale, leaving an American contact number.

Recognising the prints, the art experts forwarded them to London for tests to see if they matched the bindings left behind in the St Petersburg library. They were verified as genuine by Colin Reev, head forensic scientist at Christie's in London.

Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Shubov, Deputy Chief of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the local Russian police, yesterday said: "Aleksandr Mamontov is a very smart criminal. These things were so large that it is impossible to say how he carried them out of the library. But somehow he managed it."

After Christie's had given them the tip-off, Scotland Yard, the FBI and Russian authorities traced the art thief



Aleksandr Shubov, deputy chief of Russia's Ministry of Internal Affairs, with *The Birds of America* by John James Audubon. There are only 100 copies worldwide

to Atlanta, where he was deported back to Russia and arrested by the St Petersburg Organised Investigation Department.

Unlike the majority of crime originating in Russia, Mamontov, 34, was not part of any mafia organisation and had acted completely alone.

Mamontov has a history in art dealing and apparently contacted art experts to discover the value of the pictures before stealing them. He has been in custody in St Petersburg since his arrest but denies all knowledge of the theft.

Aleksandr Shubov, Chief of the Organised Crime Investigation Department, explained that they had few clues as to how Mamontov

had managed to remove the book so secretly. "The investigation is still under way, including interviewing all the library staff," he said. "The oversized-book section is open to the public, so anybody could have been an accomplice. We are just glad to have our national treasure back at last."

Audubon produced about 200 copies of the book in London between 1827 and 1838. The prints were painted on to "double-elephant" sized portfolios to ensure that the bird drawings were life size. Since their production, however, more than half the books have been broken up. A senior librarian at the Natural History Museum estimated that there are currently no more than ten intact copies

left in the UK, all of which are kept in secure rare books rooms.

"The whole world is an international art market," Detective-Superintendent Dick Ellis of Scotland Yard said. "Last year we had more than 250 requests for help in finding missing pieces of art. It's always very satisfying to find a home for stolen works such as these."

Colonel Shubov said: "We had three of the books in Russia, two in St Petersburg and one in Moscow. Getting our third back with the aid of the London Metropolitan Police meant a great deal to us. It is a unique piece of art, so to us it would be pointless to estimate its cost. To our government it is literally priceless."



## Evidence triggers rapist's memory of attack

By Richard Duce

AFTER six years spent blotting out the memory of raping a 63-year-old woman while high on drugs, a man finally confessed his guilt yesterday when confronted in court by her account of the attack.

Darren Thorne, who was implicated initially by DNA evidence, was adamant when interviewed by police that he had nothing to do with attacking the woman in her home.

But once the woman, a widow, began giving evidence it prompted him to change his plea at Luton Crown Court from innocent to guilty.

Thorne, only 17 at the time of the attack in 1991, was under the influence of drugs and alcohol when he attacked the woman at her home in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. She was pushed downstairs and broke her ankle before she was raped.

Patricia May, for the defence, told the court yesterday: "He is in a state of great distress this morning. Having seen the lady in the witness box and heard her describe the fall downstairs it triggered something that was deep and well covered in his memory."

"He now realises that something happened when he was under the influence of LSD and alcohol and accepts he must have committed the offence. This is a genuine memory triggering and he is utterly and genuinely horrified by the thought that he could have committed this sort of offence. His attitude now is that he should be punished and punished severely."

Judge Gareth Davies jailed Thorne for seven years and said the sentence would have been longer but for his belated admission. The defence had been prepared for the woman's statement to be read to the court because she could not positively identify her attacker, but the prosecution decided she should give evidence.

The judge told Thorne: "You went into her home specifically to rape her. You fulfilled everyone's worst nightmare. You subjected her to an additional indignity and carried on to rape her even though her ankle was broken."

## Woman saved by police is found dead

By Simon de Bruxelles

A WOMAN who was plucked from the sea by a police helicopter ten weeks ago after attempting suicide has been found dead at the same spot.

Dramatic photographs of Jacqueline Leoriard's rescue were published around the world. She had been pulled from the water by a police constable clinging to the undercarriage. Mrs Leonard, a 46-year-old divorcee who suffered from depression, later thanked her rescuers and said: "I'm so glad to be alive. I'm very, very grateful and I promise I won't do anything like that again."

She is believed to have suffered a relapse at the weekend and walked out of the hospital where she was being treated for depression. She returned to the lonely beach at Sully, near Cardiff, and for the second time walked into the

treacherous waters of the Bristol Channel.

Her body was washed up near by and police said yesterday that they were treating her death as suicide. An inquest is to be held.

One of the crew who had saved her, a paramedic, Graham Plumridge, said yesterday: "It has left us feeling very sad. It was a possibility she would try again. Her previous attempt was genuine, she was not attention-seeking."

Mrs Leonard was barely alive when the police helicopter saved her from her first suicide attempt. The helicopter was not designed for air-sea rescue operations but the pilot, Captain Angus Paterson, dipped the helicopter skids into the water so that Police Constable Phil Bracegirdle could pull her to safety. He managed to hold on until



Mrs Leonard being rescued in December

they reached the shallows when the unconscious woman was gently dropped into the water. Constable Bracegirdle jumped in and administered the kiss of life while other rescuers arrived.

Mrs Leonard, who was admitted to hospital, said later: "I realise now it was a stupid thing to do. I've got a lot to live for. It would have been a terrible waste of my life."

South Wales police said Mrs Leonard's death was a "very sad loss of life."

## Students are barred for naked campaign

By Paul Wilkinson

TWO undergraduates have been barred from student elections after they appeared naked on campaign posters.

Andy Hogg and John Richardson who are studying at Sheffield Hallam University. Election officials struck them off the candidates' list after news of a ban on the posters was leaked to the press.

They were accused of breaking election regulations which forbid "seeking too much publicity". Mr Hogg, 21, who was standing for union president, was pictured naked with a strategically-placed bag of chips and the slogan: "The whole Hogg, the man with nothing to lose because he gives you the naked truth."

Mr Richardson, 23, was in the same position but with a football instead of the chips. His slogan read: "The man who dares to go The Full Johny, no hidden agenda."

## Countess's goodbye to privacy

'A very private person' goes public in *Hello!*, but is too shy to reveal her fee, reports Daniel McGrory

SOON after an unsuccessful fight to protect her privacy, the former wife of Earl Spencer has bared her soul to the readers of *Hello!*

Across 14 pages of photographs and gushing prose, Victoria, Countess Spencer, tells of her "fresh beginning". During her acrimonious divorce the former model was forced to emphasise that she at pains to emphasise that she was "a very private person", yet in *Hello!* she talks about yet in *Hello!* she talks about the overcoming anorexia and the aftermath of her marriage.

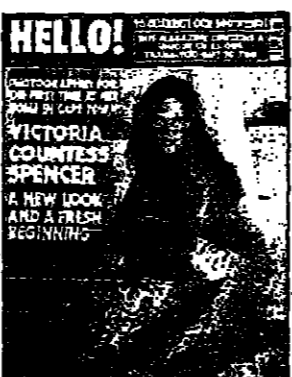
The magazine refused to say how much it had paid for the interview and photographs of the countess in an array of garments in every room of her Cape Town home. Her one stipulation

was that the four children she and the Earl have should not be involved.

The appearance in *Hello!* comes barely two months after she and her husband, the brother of Diana, Princess of Wales, unsuccessfully took the Government to the European Court of Human Rights for failing to protect her privacy.

The countess received a £13 million lump sum, a £250,000 home in South Africa and a car in the divorce settlement. The earl offered more money for the children's education and agreed to review the figures if his wife returned to Britain to live.

Reluctant to say a word



The covergirl countess poses at her home

after the divorce four months ago, the countess now talks openly of her "self-acceptance" of her life as a single mother. She tells of the challenges this brings, such as her hesitancy about choosing a blue piano for the lounge, for seven-year-old Kitty to have lessons on.

The magazine would not say last night whether it felt it

had got value for money given that during her divorce the countess said she had been offered £250,000 on condition that she "provided sufficient confidential information to justify such a large amount". *Hello!* said the countess wished to keep their financial arrangement confidential.

The questions include: "Did modelling make you paranoid about your appearance?" Her candid reply is: "It didn't help." She goes on: "I used to struggle with the way I looked." She says she is winning the battle against her problems of addiction.

She and the magazine would not disclose whether the earl had been consulted about the article. The European court threw out the Spencers' privacy case in January, implicitly accepting that the Government was right in arguing that British law provided adequate remedies to protect privacy.

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# Fear and loathing tarnish city of proud traditions

**Dominic Kennedy investigates what lies behind the vendetta against the Deputy Prime Minister in Hull**

IN THE once-proud seafaring city of Hull, John Prescott is only the latest victim of the suspicion and fear that is paralysing civic life.

It has become commonplace for councillors who should be busily reviving the fortunes of the ailing port to speak of late-night threatening telephone calls, mysterious thefts, bullying, nepotism and corruption. One man answered the telephone at night to hear the voice of a political opponent saying: "I'll get you. You're dead. It will be a baseball bat across your head, mate."

Another councillor had a briefcase stolen when his car was broken into. Inside was a dossier detailing allegations of child abuse by social workers; the stereo and coins on the dashboard were untouched.

Mr Prescott's patience finally snapped when his son, Jonathan, 34, was dragged into the mire over a property deal. When the Deputy Prime Minister says there is a vendetta against him, he is right. Commentators have speculated that the root of the bad feeling is Mr Prescott's perceived betrayal of socialism in favour of new Labour.

The bitterness is older, and

much more personal. In the 1960s, the constituency of Hull East, where locals say a dustbin with a red rosette could win an election, was a fiefdom of the giant Transport & General Workers Union, whose dockers ruled the roost in Hull politics.

The favourite for Hull East was Alex Clark, a councillor and close ally of Barbara Castle. However Mr Prescott, the seamen's union organiser in the city, was chosen to stand in 1970 as Sam McCluskey, the NUS leader, was negotiating a merger with the TGWU.

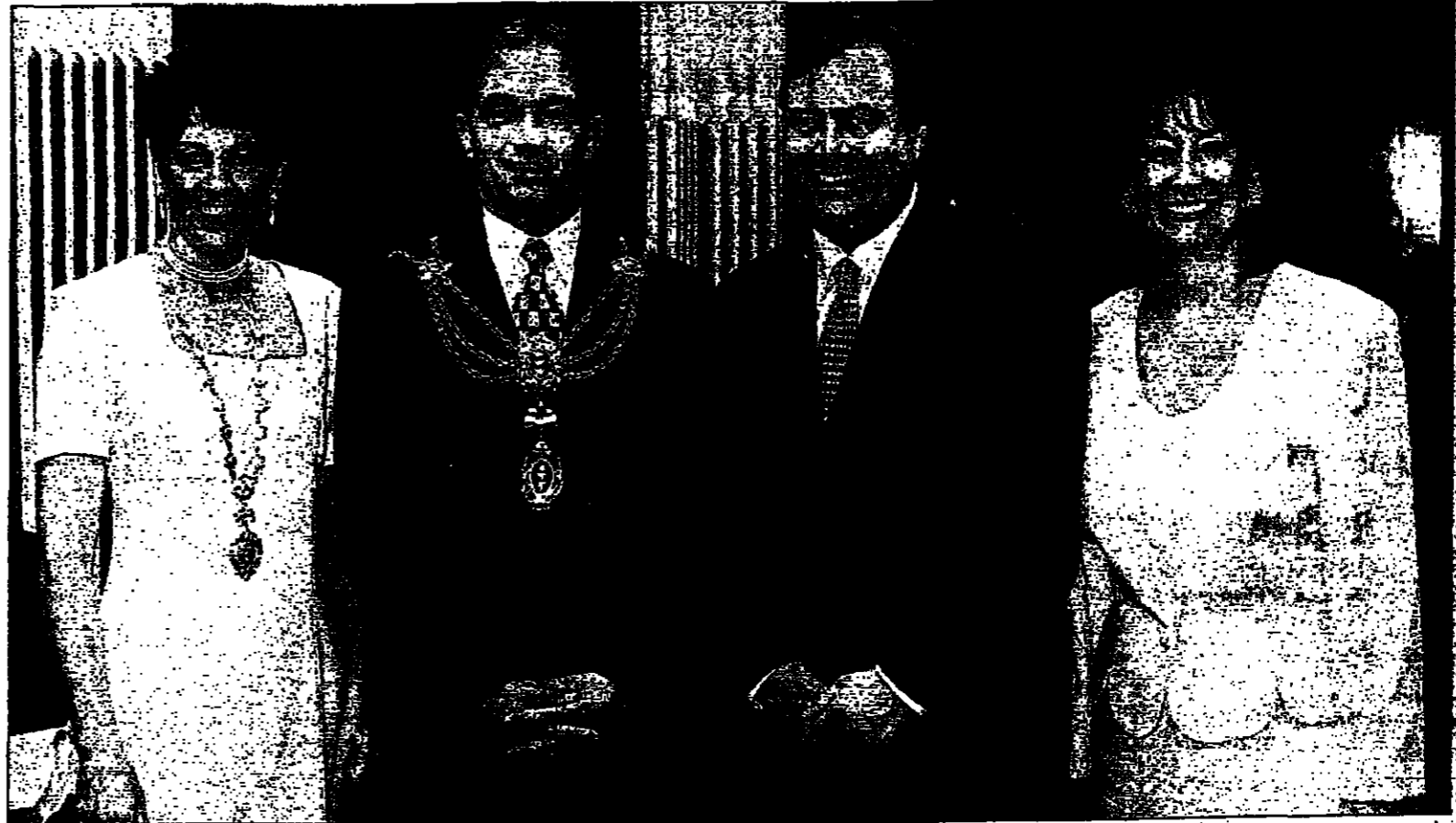
The dockers agreed to vote for Mr Prescott, who took the seat only for the NUS to walk away from the merger, leaving the TGWU to feel it had been sold a pup. "That's why long-standing socialist politicians in Hull don't have much to say about Prescott that's good," a source close to Hull Labour Party said.

As the years passed, Mr Prescott's closest ally in the Hull Guildhall, John Black, became chairman of housing. In a city where 39,800 of the houses are owned by the local authority, it is according to one observer, "like being God". Mr Black was perceived as

the real power behind the throne on the council, and bitterness built up among those who failed to be chosen for sought-after positions of influence in the Guildhall. An ordinary councillor receives about £7,000 a year in expenses, but a committee chairman can hope to double that. With 58 of the 60 seats on the council held by Labour, the party machine had enormous opportunities for patronage.

However, the bad feeling really escalated when Humberside County Council, another Labour stronghold based in the minister city of Beverley, was abolished in 1996. Searching for a new power base was Terry Geraghty, a once-militant dockworker who had gone on to become an energetic leader of Humberside. There was little love lost between him and Mr Black.

Mr Geraghty and other county councillors were duly elected to the new unitary authority in Hull. Then rumours began to spread through the city about Labour shenanigans. In Mr Geraghty's ward, 19 people had Labour Party memberships bought for them and a plot to oust Mr Geraghty was sus-



John Prescott with John Black in 1995, when he was Lord Mayor of Hull, and their wives Margaret Black, left, and Pauline Prescott

pected. When complaints to Labour's national executive resulted in no disciplinary action and no published report into the affair, resentment was turned against Mr Prescott.

Last year, Mr Black relinquished his local and national posts, including chairmanship of housing, as the police investigated his £42,000 civil hospitality bill — twice as much as previous holders of the post — for his year as Lord Mayor.

Tony Fee, a deputy chairman of Humberside County Council, was suspended from the Labour group for six

months for naming another councillor as the subject of a police investigation into child abuse. Labour's NEC suspended the Hull Labour Party while it investigated the allegations. Mr Geraghty, after 28 years in local government, found that he was rejected as a candidate for this May's local elections, a decision upheld by the NEC.

The real losers among all this bad feeling are the people of Hull, who find their Guildhall is dominated by personality clashes and empire building.

Leading article, 17

# Years of hell that forced MP to resign

Victim turned table on plotters, writes Andrew Pierce

A HULL Labour MP resigned after 14 years because his health had collapsed under the strain of a campaign of intimidation from within the local party.

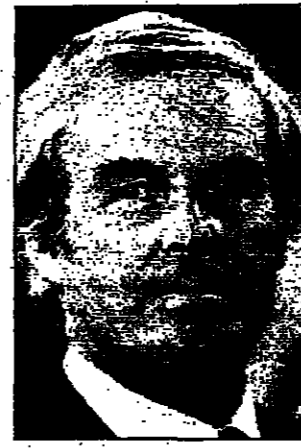
Stuart Randall, who announced he was quitting only weeks before the last general election, had become a nervous wreck. Friends revealed for the first time yesterday that he was so ill he could no longer face going into the Commons to make a speech.

"It was awful, terrible, there was this tiny clique which made his life hell. It went on for years and years. It was war. It became so intense there was no possibility of doing his job properly," said a friend of the former MP for Hull West.

The health of his wife, Gillian, who was also his secretary, suffered. The friend said: "Her hands would shake when the telephone rang. You never knew what to expect next."

One of his bitterest enemies was John Black, a close friend of John Prescott and the vice-chairman of the North Hull Housing Action Trust which sold the disputed properties which will financially benefit Jonathan Prescott, the 34-year-old son of the Deputy Prime Minister.

Mr Randall's decision to resign as an MP was announced on April 7, only weeks before the general election. The sudden and unexpected timing was the result of an agreement with the



Stuart Randall: strain stopped him doing job

national party. Mr Randall was given a life peerage by Tony Blair after the general election to become Baron Randall of St Budeaux.

"By resigning so late the National Executive Committee in London automatically took over," added the friend. The result was that Alan Johnson, a Blairite trade unionist, was nominated and duly won the Labour stronghold at the election.

The 11th hour withdrawal was the result of a long running battle with his local party and Labour dominated council. Lord Randall was frequently at odds with Mr Prescott over the conduct of the council, which he criticised and Mr Prescott often defended.

Lord Randall, who was respected at Westminster for

his intelligence and integrity, faced a series of deselection battles. The meetings of his general management committee were moved from weekends to midweek, which effectively ensured he could not attend because of parliamentary duties.

Bogus members were moved into his constituency party. An investigation was conducted by the constituency secretary after 13 were discovered in one ward. None of the "new members" knew they had joined the party.

Finally, after membership application details disappeared from the national party headquarters, the MP turned to Mr Blair for help. "The situation had become unmanageable. Hull Labour Party was out of control. No one was doing anything to clean it up," added the friend. "There was a conspiracy against Stuart Randall."

One of the final straws came when the MP was accused in the council chamber by Mr Black, a member of John Prescott's Hull East constituency party, of not being a suitable person to be an MP. Mr Randall issued a writ for libel. The proceedings continue.

"The feud had finally boiled over in public," added the friend. From that moment the MP, urged on by his supporters, plotted his escape route in utmost secrecy to ensure that his enemies never got the chance to replace him with one of their own.

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# Strongwoman killed by cocaine overdose

By Ian Murray  
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S strongest woman died from a cocaine overdose after years of taking a combination of drugs to improve her sporting performance and keep her weight down, an inquest was told yesterday.

Joanne Amies-Winter, 23, was found dead by her husband, Stephen, on February 23 on the living-room floor at a house in Newbury, Berkshire, where they were staying with friends. The inquest was told that she had taken 2 grams of cocaine.

This on its own was enough to kill, but she also had "drug abuser's lung" — a build-up of fluid, caused by heart failure brought about by cocaine.

A post-mortem examination of the champion body-builder also found small quantities of the anti-depressant Prozac and larger quantities of ephedrine, a stimulant, and Nubain, a pain killer. Charles Hoile, the West Berkshire Coroner, who recorded a verdict of accidental death at Newbury Coroner's Court, said: "The message is quite clear — hard drugs can and do kill."

Mrs Amies-Winter, who be-



Joanne Amies-Winter and her husband, Stephen: he told the inquest he had seen his wife injecting cocaine

came a triathlete at 14 and went on to represent Britain in the European and World championships; also achieved acclaim as a bodybuilder in national and international competitions.

Her husband, a top European strongman, told the hearing that he had once seen his wife injecting cocaine. "Jo liked to try all manner of things and she could not really be advised not to until she had done it herself," he said. His wife took ephedrine — often

prescribed for breathing problems — in connection with her training, he told the inquest. "Jo was always worried about her appearance and it was a dietary aid to stop her putting on body fat," he said. "She took it quite regularly."

The couple were staying at the home of Graham Black, 35, a champion bodybuilder and former Mr Europe, when Mrs Amies-Winter died. Her husband said: "Jo had brought some cocaine with her which I was not totally in

agreement with. She knew my thoughts on the subject, but in the end I did not bother arguing about it any more.

"I was always telling her to be more careful with her body, but she would not listen to me."

During the evening his wife went to the lavatory several times. He presumed that that was when she took the cocaine. He said they went to sleep on the living-room floor in Mr Black's home and he later awoke to find his wife dead beside him. He tried but failed to rouse her and then called the ambulance. Nothing could be done.

Robert Menai-Williams, the Home Office pathologist who carried out the post-mortem examination, said: "The drug-taking had clearly been going on for some time. It was probably several weeks at least for the changes I saw in her lungs to have taken place." He said the cause of death was cocaine toxicity coupled with the presence of drug abuser's lung — a condition caused when cocaine constricts the blood vessels and acts as a local anaesthetic on the heart, causing its failure and flooding the lungs with fluid.



Feeding time for one of the fox cubs, which will be returned to the wild when reared

## Vets solve identity crisis for tiny trio

THIS tiny creature had rescuers fazed when it was found with two others under a garden shed. They were thought to be the kittens of a cat that fled beneath the shed after being hit by a car.

But when the mewling youngsters were seen by vets, they were identified as fox cubs, probably less than a week old.

The cubs are being hand-reared at Gloucestershire Wildlife Rescue Centre at Hartpury. Louise Brockbank of the centre said: "Fox cubs don't look like foxes at this stage. They make the same sort of noises as kittens. The vixen must have been killed or come to some harm because she would not normally leave her cubs at this time. Their eyes are still closed and they need their mother to keep them warm. It's lucky for them that the injured cat happened to run under the shed." The cat is being treated at Bowbridge veterinary surgery, near the scene of the accident in Stroud.

## MP denies polluting water with farm slurry

By Helen Johnson

AN MP appeared in court yesterday accused of polluting a village water supply in an incident which left dozens of villagers and the local publican fetching water from standpipes over Christmas.

The standpipes froze on New Year's Day, the court was told, and the occupants of 30 properties at Tangle, Hampshire, who were supplied by a bore hole on Michael Colvin's farm, had to boil their water for several more weeks.

Mr Colvin, 65, Conservative MP for Romsey, and his foreman, Ian Hewish, 54, deny causing farm effluent to pollute controlled waters at Home Farm, Tangle, on December 6, 1996. Magistrates at Alton were told that the MP had turned down a suggestion by his foreman to buy equipment to reduce the risk of contamination.

Fugh Davies, for the prosecution, said that Mr Colvin had owned the 85-acre farm since 1967. It had a long-standing bore hole that supplied 32 sites — residential and commercial, other farms and the public house — with water from around 70ft below ground.

Near to the bore hole was a slurry lagoon that could hold approximately a year's supply of waste from the farm's herd of 180 cows. After the water became contaminated, Environment Agency officials had found evidence of slurry being spread only 200 metres from the borehole. "It was spread by a pipe rather than in the form of a spreader and no irrigation was used," Mr Davies said, adding that 200,000 gallons had been discharged in this way over 36 hours. Using such a method, so

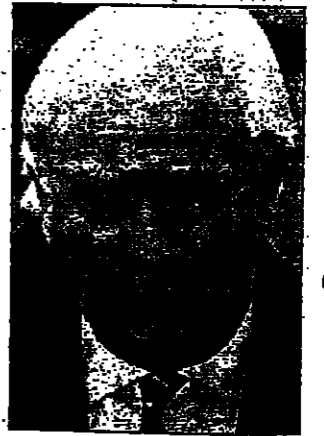
close to a borehole conflicted with a statutory code of agricultural practice incorporated in the Water Act of 1989.

Robert Barnes, a ground water protection officer with the Environment Agency, said the speed with which the pollution occurred suggested that the slurry could have gone down the borehole itself to enter the ground water. He believed from the evidence that the source was reasonably close to the borehole.

Mr Davies said that in an interview with Environment Agency officials in London Mr Colvin had admitted rejecting on the ground of cost a request by his foreman to purchase an irrigator or spreading machine. He said: "The price of that decision was paid two years later."

He said Mr Colvin had spent around £9,000 putting in place the emergency safe water supply, although he did not accept liability for the pollution.

The trial continues.



Colvin owned the farm since 1967

## Zoo's old boy is secret survivor

By Helen Rumblelow

A GIANT tortoise of a breed thought to have been hunted to extinction in 1840 has been found lumbering around Blackpool Zoo.

Darwin, who is about 70 years old and weighs 336lb, is the first of its breed to be found surviving outside its native Seychelles, and one of only 13 Seychelles giant tortoises in the world.

Darwin's keeper had always thought there was something a little unusual about his charge, and when he saw news that 12 tortoises of the original Seychelles species had been discovered last year he contacted the islands. Justin Gerlach of the Seychelles Nature Protection Trust flew to Blackpool and confirmed that Darwin was the 13th survivor of a pogrom on the tortoises when settlers arrived on the islands in 1772. After 70 years of eating this

"easy takeaway food source" the species was thought extinct, Dr Gerlach said.

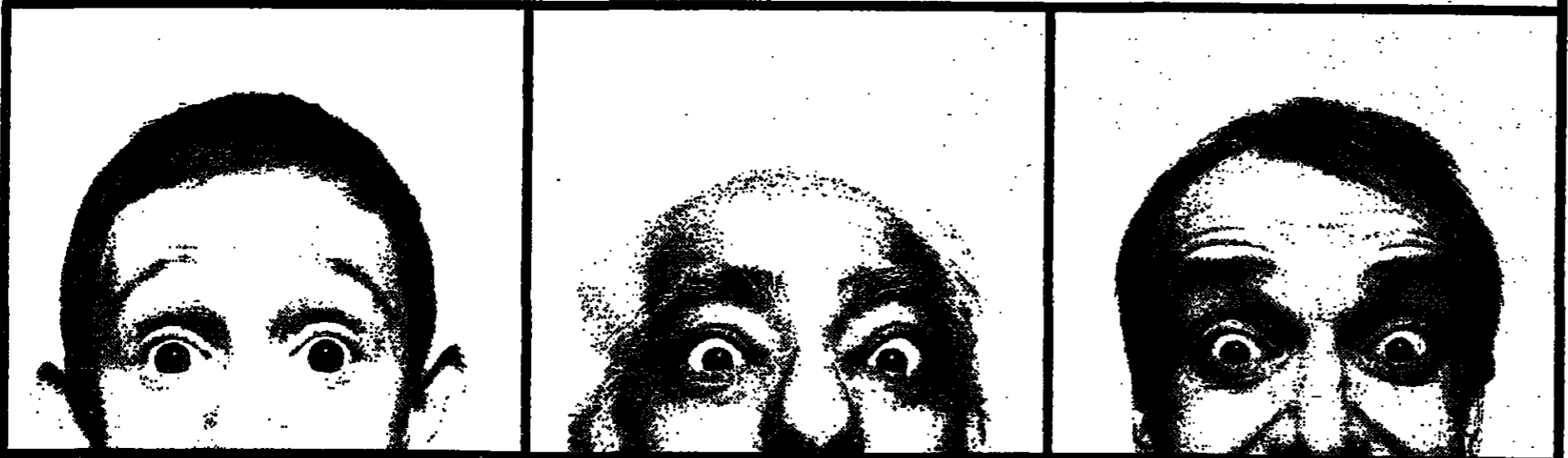
The tortoises commonly referred to as Seychelles giant tortoises are actually imported from the nearby Aldabra island, and have evolved completely differently, he said. All Seychelles giant tortoises were thought to be Aldabrans until last year, when Dr Gerlach was able to survey the islands' tortoise population and found 12 of the original Seychelles tortoises. "To find another one thousands of miles away is just phenomenal," he said.

The zoo is now raising funds to send Darwin to the Seychelles for breeding purposes.

"It's a quirk of fate that he was picked from all the Aldabrans to be shipped over here," said a spokesman, "but it saved him."



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There are those  
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# Diana charities fear exclusion from grants

SEVENTY-FIVE charities, all presented at the funeral of Princess Diana, were yesterday invited to apply for up to £65,000 from £5 million allocated to them in the first round of the fund.

**Groups say that what they really need is core funding, report Kathryn Knight and Daniel McGrory**

channelled donations into the memorial fund. On Monday, the six charities of which the Princess remained patron at the time of her death, along with the Osteopathic Centre for Children, were told they would be given £1 million each.

those with cerebral palsy, said she hoped the fund would review the policy. "We're saying: please don't make us apply for projects. We need money to pay the bills. It is getting harder to raise funds because people want to contribute to new and exciting ideas."

crucial. The problem is that they have nominated a mixture of very big and very small charities and ... the same criteria for each. One of the trustees, Vivienne Parry, was unmoved. "It is just tough," she said. The charities "have to provide a worthwhile project or they don't get the money. We are not in the business of handing out blank cheques."

## FROM AIDS TO THE ARTS: BENEFICIARIES OF THE DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES MEMORIAL FUND

|  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| Organisations with which the Princess was closely associated will receive grants in the first round. They are: | British Lung Foundation                               | International: International Spinal Research Trust  | Passage Day Centre  |
|  | British Red Cross Society                             | Australian Council on Smoking and Health  | Pre-School Learning Alliance  |
|  | British Red Cross Youth                               | Australian Junior Red Cross   | Pied Piper Appeal   |
|  | Chester Children's Appeal                             | Canadian Red Cross Youth Services   | Refuge - The Chiswick Women's Refuge  |
|  | Child Accident Prevention Trust                       | The Commonwealth Society for the Deaf   | Refuge  |
|  | The Royal Children's Hospital Foundation Appeal       | The Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children in Australia   | Scottish Pre-School Playgroup Association   |
|  | The Douglas Ryder Foundation                          | Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind  | St Matthew Society (Homes for the Lonely)   |
|  | Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association | Speed (only proposals which have charitable intentions will be considered)  | Wales Pre-School Playgroups Association   |
|  | Foundation for Conductive Education                   | All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club  | International: Barbados Australia Barbados New Zealand Chippangal Wildlife Trust Variety Club of New Zealand Exercise Interplay Soubham   |
|  | Headway National Head Injuries Association            | British Sports Association for the Disabled   | Colleges and societies with which the Princess was associated (only proposals which have charitable intentions will be considered)  |
|  | The Hugh Macmillan Rehabilitation Centre              | David Lloyd Sizeranger Racquet Club   | UK: Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Faculty of Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons of England The General Council and Register of Osteopaths                                      |
|  | The Huntington's Disease Association                  | English Women's Tenby Bowling Association   | Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland The Hon Society of the Middle Temple International: Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons Royal New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Anglo-European College of Chiropractic |
|  | Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence            | Federation Cup by NEC Gloucestershire County Cricket Club Royal Highland Yacht Club Lyford Cay Club Welsh Bowling Association                 |   |
|  | Leukaemia Research Appeal for Wales                   | Other Charities   |   |
|  | London Lighthouse                                     | UK: Barbados The Benesh Institute Childline The Guinness Trust Help the Aged Home-Start UK Northern Ireland Pre-School Playgroups Association |   |
|  | Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children              |   |   |
|  | The National Council for Child Health - Child 2000    |   |   |
|  | The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery  |   |   |
|  | National Meningitis Trust                             |   |   |
|  | Princess of Wales Children's Health Clinic            |   |   |
|  | Royal School for the Blind/SocAbility                 |   |   |
|  | The Trust for Sick Children in Wales                  |   |   |
|  | Turning Point   |   |   |
|  | Freshfield Service                                    |   |   |
|  | Ty Hafren - The Children's Hospice in Wales           |   |   |
|  | Wellbeing   |   |   |



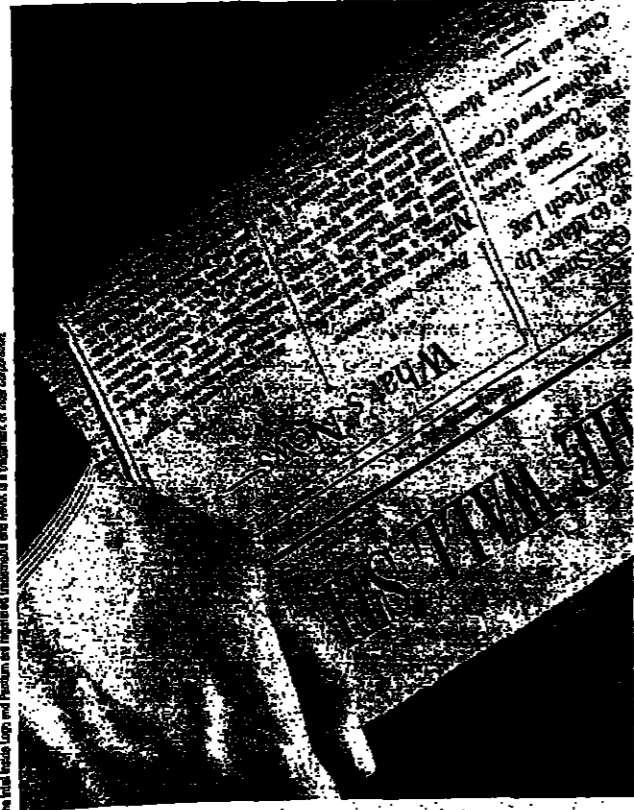
## Prince puts a painful knee back to work

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE Prince of Wales performed a full day of engagements in South Wales yesterday, only 24 hours after having laser kyphole surgery on the cartilage of his right knee. Learning on a knobbly black walking stick, the Prince at times appeared in pain from his heavily bandaged knee joint. Aides kept an ice pack ready in case of swelling but the Prince gamely joked his way through five engagements.

MP dep...  
polluti...  
water w...  
farm sh...

## SIEMENS NIXDORF



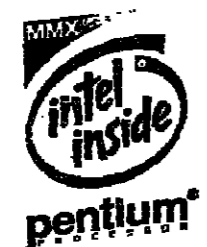
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# SNP poll surge raises prospect of independence

By Shirley English

THE prospect of a Scottish parliament dominated by nationalists pressing for full independence emerged yesterday after an opinion poll on voting intentions for next year's elections placed the SNP just one point behind Labour.

The significant swing away from the Government was revealed in a System Three poll that showed Labour with 39 per cent of the vote, down five points on last month, and the SNP on 38 per cent, up five. The SNP rating is its highest since the 1970s.

If the survey were reflected at the election next May Labour would still be the largest party with 55 seats out of the parliament's 129, but the SNP would be close behind with 49.

Yesterday Alex Salmond, the SNP leader, described the poll as "sensational" and said it continued the steady upward trend in his party's fortunes over the past few months. If the momentum was maintained the SNP could become the dominant party, and the ambition of Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, to become First Minister would be seriously undermined.

Mr Salmond confirmed that if the nationalists won power, or formed a coalition Govern-

ment, Scots would be given the opportunity to vote in a referendum on full independence in the first term of the parliament. "We would not use a Scottish parliament to try to force through independence, but if we won power we would regard that as a mandate to negotiate full independence for Scotland from the rest of the UK," he said.

Holding an independence referendum has long been SNP policy. During the devolution campaign last year when the party teamed up with Labour and the Liberal Democrats to campaign for a double "yes" vote, it made it clear that it viewed a Scottish parliament as the first step to its goal of full independence. However, yesterday's poll for *The Herald* was the first time that the prospect appeared to have any chance of being realised. The result undermines the Government's confident assertions that home rule would kill off nationalist aspirations.

Yesterday's figures, canvassed after the fiasco over Labour's blocking of a knight-hood for the actor Sean Connery, an SNP supporter, were being interpreted as a protest vote against the Government, which has suffered a series of recent public relations disasters over the siting

of the Scottish parliament and over welfare reform.

Labour dismissed the result as a "rogue poll" but confirmed that a Scottish parliament would have the power to hold a referendum on independence, although any actual constitutional change would remain within Westminster's remit. A resounding vote for independence, however, would be hard to ignore.

Jack McConnell, party general secretary, said: "We have always said that an opinion poll is just an opinion poll. The campaign for the first elections to the Scottish parliament has yet to begin. When it does, Labour's positive policies and achievements in government and the wholly negative strategy of the nationalists, will change these figures dramatically."

Raymond Robertson, chairman of the Scottish Conservatives, who moved up three points to 12 per cent of the vote, said that his party had long warned the voters of the serious threat posed to the Union by the SNP. Labour had "shamelessly flirted" with the nationalists during the devolution referendum. Now he said it was more obvious than ever that the Scottish Tories were the only party willing to fight for the United Kingdom's survival.

### FORMS OF REFORM: SUGGESTED EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BALLOT PAPERS

**Constituency: Hampshire North**

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| P. Ashdown  | Lib Democrat |
| A. Blair    | Labour       |
| W. Hague    | Conservative |
| A. N. Other | Independent  |

**Constituency: South East England**

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Liberal Democrats | P. Ashdown  |
| Labour            | A. Blair    |
| Conservative      | W. Hague    |
| Independent       | A. N. Other |

**Constituency: South East England**

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| P. Ashdown  | Lib Democrat |
| A. Blair    | Labour       |
| W. Hague    | Conservative |
| A. N. Other | Independent  |

## PR puts new slant on cross purposes

Tim Hames on the potential for confusion, and increased apathy, created by voting reform

THERE was a time when the acts of voting and of counting ballot papers were simple affairs. The citizen stuck a cross next to a name and the returning officer declared the candidate who had won the most votes duly elected. Matters were exceptionally effortless in European elections, not least because about two thirds of British adults did not bother to visit their polling station. The process will be radically different in June next year, when for the first time the whole British public will be involved in an election based on proportional representation.

There are now 87 British Members of the European Parliament. These are elected by the first-past-the-post system from Euro-constituencies about the size of 6-8 parliamentary

constituencies. In Northern Ireland, the three MEPs are chosen by the single transferable vote method. Legislation that will pass through the Commons tomorrow will sweep away the present system (except for the special arrangement in Ulster). In its place will be 12 regions varying in size from North East England, with 2 million voters and 4 MEPs, to South East England (excluding London) with 5 million voters and 11 MEPs.

In every case seats will be divided between the parties according to the proportion of the vote achieved in that region. In South East England, for example, an election that saw the Tories win 45 per cent Labour 35 per cent and the Liberal Democrats 15 per cent would produce 5 Tory, 4 Labour and 2 Lib Dem MEPs. The contro-

versy has surrounded the means by which the MEPs are selected. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, has opted for the "closed list" system. This means that voters will have a choice of parties, not candidates, on their ballot paper. The candidates will be chosen, according to the order in which they appear on regional lists devised by the political parties.

The Liberal Democrats had called for the "Belgium option". This system would allow voters either to back the party list or to change the order in which the parties have placed their candidates. This is complicated and can produce odd results. If all the supporters of a small party express their preference for a single candidate that person can lose despite having more personal votes than another

figure whose party list has secured a lot of support. For that reason, the Electoral Reform Society supported the "open list" method. This allows the voters directly to choose their preferred individual - the party vote is determined by adding together all the ballots cast for, say, five different Labour candidates.

In essence, Britain will have the least complex form of proportional representation but at the price of some democracy. There has never been a UK election in which there were no 'candidates' on the ballot paper. If this proves as confusing to the voters in practice as it is to explain in theory, then the turnout for the next European election may fall beneath the record low of 32.6 per cent recorded in 1984.

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## Redgrave attacks Labour's arts policy

By DALYA ALBERGE  
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE actress Vanessa Redgrave mounted a scathing attack yesterday on the Government's arts policy, saying that its lack of support was threatening the future of drama in Britain.

Speaking to *The Times*, she expressed surprise and despair that a Labour Government had turned out to be no more committed to the arts than the Tories had been. "As far as anyone can see, this Government is continuing the policies of the previous Government. Funding cuts in real terms and with inflation mean the cuts are even worse now."

"As we all know, Britain is regarded as an extraordinary place for theatre. The whole base for that extraordinary work is being destroyed. The policy must be changed."

She said that culture was a mark of a civilised society and called on Labour to recognise that it was as important to the nation's health as hospitals and education. Actors, stage-managers and designers could no longer afford to subsidise the theatre by continuing to



Redgrave: cuts worse than under the Tories

work "for nothing or less than the living wage".

The left-wing actress said that the plight of the cash-strapped Greenwich Theatre was typical - "a wonderful space that does wonderful work" which had to close at the end of the month after losing its £211,000 grant.

Labour's lack of support was "shocking", she said, echoing the attack on the Government's arts policy by Sir Peter Hall in January. Not only actors and technicians would suffer but audiences and ultimately "the future of drama in Britain". Unless money was made available, allowing theatres to cut ticket prices, going to a play would become "a once-a-year treat".

Although the Royal Court received a £16 million lottery grant for its building, it still could not afford basic running costs, such as photocopying. This, she said, was typical of theatres throughout Britain.

## Reform of the Lords may start next year

By JAMES LANDALE

THE right of hereditary peers to sit and vote in the House of Lords may be abolished by the middle of next year.

After a Cabinet meeting yesterday on the Government's legislative programme, it emerged that a Bill to reform the Lords is likely to be in this autumn's Queen's Speech.

Ministers are known to be keen to implement the manifesto commitment to expel hereditary peers, which they see as central to Labour's constitutional reforms. However, a decision is unlikely to be made until the end of the month. It is uncertain whether any further reforms will be agreed in time for this autumn. Wider Lords reform is being considered by a Cabinet committee headed by Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, but no conclusions have been reached.

It was confirmed yesterday that high-level talks between Labour and Tory peers have continued in spite of Downing Street claims that Tony Blair had ordered a halt after details of two initial meetings were leaked to the press last week.

## Brown's Budget will put green rhetoric to the test

RIDDELL  
ON POLITICS

ALL governments now proclaim their green credentials along with their belief in the family. Turning fine words into action is less easy, particularly when the Treasury is involved. One of the fascinating, and continuing, tensions within the Government is between the Department for the Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs and the Treasury over green policy.

This was emphasised yesterday by the leak of some of the draft of the forthcoming White Paper on transport with its proposals for charging for non-residential parking and for the use of congested roads.

The gap between rhetoric and performance is highlighted by the first report of the new Environmental Audit Committee of the Commons on the Chancellor's Pre-Budget Report. The committee is chaired by the former Tory minister John Horgan but has, of course, a majority of Labour members. It says that the fine-sounding aspirations of last July's "Statement of Intent on Environmental Taxation" have not been translated into reality.

The July statement committed the Government to exploring the scope for using the tax system to deliver environmental objectives and, over time, to reform the tax system to increase the incentives to reduce environmental damage, to shift the burden of tax from "goods" to "bads". The committee was "concerned that the

Pre-Budget Report (published last November) did not contain any evidence of a strategic approach in line with the Statement of Intent". The committee quotes some evasive evidence from the Treasury appearing to retreat from the earlier aims.

Gordon Brown has, for example, made a priority of the populist measures of cutting VAT on domestic fuel, reducing the gas levy, and helping pensioners with their winter fuel bills. The report floats the option of increasing VAT from 5 to 17 per cent and addressing the distributional issues, separately through the benefits system or via a tax-free energy allowance.

All the talk of making environmentally sustainable growth a "core feature" of the Government's economic policy has not so far been borne out. There has far been no discussion about the impact of economic activity on the environment. The two are viewed,

and discussed, separately. The scepticism of the Treasury on green matters is reflected in its note to the committee: "The Government considers the use of revenues, raised by environmental taxation, to be a separate issue to their justification, on environmental grounds. It should not be assumed that the introduction of any environmental taxes would be on a revenue neutral basis."

But the Government has made commitments which have far-reaching implications for the tax system - not least, as a result of the Kyoto protocol on climate change that John Prescott skilfully helped to conclude before Christmas, as well as the review of air quality standards. At the very minimum, there is a need for explicit indicators identifying environmental taxes and for a target for shifting the tax burden.

The committee suggests a variety of measures, such as cutting VAT on energy-saving actions, taxing water pollution, increasing landfill tax and bringing in differential rates of vehicle excise duty related to emission standards. Many of these ideas have big costs. But the green claims of the Treasury are to be taken seriously, next Tuesday's Budget will have to contain detailed proposals and not just promises.

PETER RIDDELL

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MARCH 11 1998

# Father reveals torment of daughter with CJD

Inquiry told woman howled like a hurt animal. Michael Hornsby reports

THE father of a woman who has the human form of "mad cow" disease yesterday told how his daughter had been reduced to howling like an injured animal.

Roger Tomkins, an engineering company director, told the public inquiry into bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) that it had been thought at first that Clare Tomkins, 24, was in need of psychiatric care.

She was finally confirmed as suffering from new-variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (nvCJD) last August. Scientists believe the disease is caused by eating beef infected with BSE. She is one of 23 people to have been struck down so far by nvCJD, which differs from the usual form of the disease by affecting younger people. The pattern of brain damage is also different, in that it is virtually identical to BSE.

Her case was unusual in that she had been a strict vegetarian since 1985. It is thought that she must have become infected before 1985 and had been incubating the disease for more than 12 years.

Miss Tomkins is bedridden and unable to communicate or control her bodily functions. Because she cannot swallow she has to rely on an automatic pump by her bed to clear her



Clare Tomkins, a strict vegetarian since 1985, may have incubated the disease for more than 12 years

saliva and prevent her choking. She is being looked after by her family at their home near East Peckham in Kent with the help of round-the-clock nursing.

Clare's mother Dawn is also seriously ill, with ovarian cancer. Before she became ill last October she had been her daughter's main carer, a role that the Tomkins' elder daughter, Lisa, now shares with her father.

"We still have that final blow to be delivered that 22 other families have already suffered," Mr Tomkins said. "I know there is nothing within my power or within the

power of the medical profession to stop it from arriving." He added: "As the anchor for my family, I feel that I have to be strong but, when alone, I cry because of my feelings of sheer frustration and despair."

The family first noticed something odd in 1996 when Clare became prone to uncharacteristic mood swings. The change became particularly noticeable after she returned from a week's holiday with her fiancé. She confided to her mother that she cried most days for no apparent reason, and complained that she had a permanent nasty

taste in her mouth. She also began to lose weight rapidly.

"One morning in October, Clare drove her car out of the garage but then ran indoors in tears saying that she could not face going out to work," Mr Tomkins said. "Clare never worked again."

Her GP, Nick Cheales, who also gave evidence on the second day of the London inquiry yesterday, prescribed anti-depressants, but these failed to lighten her mood. By January she was complaining of numbness in her lips and pains in her knees. She was unsteady on her feet and losing her memory.

Advice was sought from a private psychiatric clinic in Sevenoaks, Kent, where doctors told Mr Tomkins her daughter was suffering from "hysterical anxiety", triggered by a conflict between wanting to live with her fiancé and not wanting to leave the security of her home. Her condition failed to respond to therapy and Mr Tomkins took her home after finding her one day at the clinic, shaking violently and lying naked except for her knickers on a bed soaked with urine. At home her condition worsened. She could no longer walk and violent thrashing head movements became more frequent.

"She howled like an injured animal," Mr Tomkins said. "The fear in her eyes was horrific."

In desperation the family agreed to a course of electroconvulsive therapy. This seemed to help initially but she reverted to her previous state. It was not until August 5 of last year that a biopsy on her tonsils established that she was suffering from nvCJD. Asked what he felt about the way BSE had been



Roger Tomkins: "When alone I cry because of my sheer frustration and despair"

handled by the Government, Mr Tomkins said: "I believe there was an element of risk taken, and that my daughter and the other sad cases are the result of that risk." The inquiry continues.

about the way BSE had been handled by the Government, Mr Tomkins said: "I believe there was an element of risk taken, and that my daughter and the other sad cases are the result of that risk." The inquiry continues.

Mr Bee said he had not been aware at the time that scrapie was a spongiform encephalopathy or that a human counterpart, CJD, existed.

## First case proved a mystery to vet

By Michael Hornsby

THE vet who dealt with what is now thought to have been the first outbreak of BSE said yesterday that the symptoms were unlike anything he had seen.

David Bee told the BSE inquiry that he had been called to Pisham Farm at Midhurst, West Sussex, in December 1984, two years before the condition now known as "mad cow" disease was officially identified. The first cow he looked at was suffering from an arched back and weight loss and went on to develop tremors and loss of co-ordination, dying two months later. "She was a mystery," he said. After half a dozen other cattle on the farm went down with similar symptoms, the farmer, Peter Stent, agreed in September 1985 to sacrifice one of the sick animals for post-mortem analysis.

Carol Richardson, a pathologist at the Central Veterinary Laboratory at Weybridge, Surrey, which is run by the Ministry of Agriculture, diagnosed a "moderate spongiform encephalopathy", but her superiors failed to act on her finding.

Mr Bee said he had not been aware at the time that scrapie was a spongiform encephalopathy or that a human counterpart, CJD, existed.

# Farmers cheer hotelier facing first court test of bone-in beef ban

By Gillian Harris, Scotland Correspondent

MORE than 100 farmers gathered outside Selkirk Sheriff Court yesterday to protest against the first prosecution for serving beef on the bone. The noisy crowd surged forward to cheer Jim Sutherland, 44, a hotelier from the Borders, as he arrived.

He is charged with serving prime Aberdeen Angus on the bone at a dinner held in deliberate defiance of the ban imposed two months earlier. David Kidd, Mr Sutherland's

solicitor, told the court that the ban, imposed by Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Minister, to prevent the remote risk of infection with "mad cow" disease, was "manifestly absurd".

After a brief procedural hearing, Sheriff James Paterson adjourned the case until April 6, when five days have been set aside for a preliminary hearing into the legality of the regulations.

When Mr Sutherland arrived at court he stopped to chat with placard-waving supporters. "I am confident that we will get a fair trial," he said. "I am happy to let the court sort this out." Afterwards he said: "My lawyers will seek to challenge the legitimacy of the regulations." His comment was greeted with applause from the farmers, many wearing badges which read "I Am Backing Scotch Beef". Tom Douglas, a farmer from Selkirk, who brought along a cardboard coffin to symbolise

**THE CHARGE**

This is the wording of the charge against Mr Sutherland, the first person to be prosecuted for contravention of the bone-in-beef regulations:

"On December 22, 1997, at the Lodge Hotel, Cartraemill, near Lauder, you James Sutherland, being one of the joint proprietors of said Lodge Hotel, did knowingly or recklessly, or negligently, or by the hand of persons employed by you there, supply to persons there, for them to eat, beef which had been roasted by you, or by persons employed by you, while still attached to the bone, contrary to Regulations 3 (2) and 10 (2) of the Beef Bones Regulations 1997 and the Food Safety Act 1990, Sections 16, 26, and 43."

the death of the farming industry in Scotland if the ban remained in place, said: "The support for Jim is immense. He is making a political statement and taking a stand over a ban that is ridiculous."

About 170 opponents of the beef ban, mostly local farmers, attended the dinner held by Mr Sutherland at the Lodge Hotel, Cartraemill, near Lauder, on December 22. They were not charged for the meal but donated £1,700 to the Marie Curie Cancer Care. The dinner was interrupted by two

health inspectors from Scottish Borders Council who arrived to charge Mr Sutherland with contravening the Food Safety Act.

If he is found guilty, Mr Sutherland could be fined up to £5,000 or be jailed for up to six months.

Alan Coomber, landlord of the 12th-century Bell Inn at Iden, East Sussex, is the first person in England to be charged with breaking the ban. He served T-bone steaks. No date has been set for his court appearance.

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# Violinist denies orchestrating 'Strad' murder

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE passion stirred by the world's most valuable violins, those built by Stradivarius, came to the surface yesterday as a gifted Romanian player and one of his countrymen stood trial for the killing of a Bremen music professor, the owner of a 300-year-old "Strad".

Professor Maria Grevesmühl, the daughter of a famous violinist, was regarded as one of the best violin teachers in the country; many of her students went on to solo careers or fixed orchestral contracts. The key to her tuition was her violin, valued at £750,000 and crafted in 1694 by Stradivarius in Cremona. Some 18 months ago she conducted a rehearsal of Grieg's Holberg Suite — guiding the chamber orchestra through difficult passages with the clear tone of her Stradivarius. After the rehearsal, the 60-year-old academic had a short conversation with the 21-year-old Romanian who played first violin in her orchestra.

Two hours later her body was found, face downwards, her skull shattered, on the steps of a suburban railway station. No money was taken — only the violin.

Shortly afterwards, the first violin — who under German court reporting rules can be

called only by his first name, Vasile — was arrested. Another Romanian, Marin, 31, was picked up some days later after trying to sell the Stradivarius through a middleman. "Vasile showed me the steps at the station where Frau Grevesmühl would come. He described the place where I should give the woman a shove," he said.

Yesterday Marin denied intending to kill or even injure the professor, although he pleaded guilty to theft. Vasile flatly denied any involvement: "If I had known, I would have done everything in my power to prevent it."

Vasile comes from the southern Romanian community of Turnu Magurele, and in an attempt to escape crushing poverty paid smugglers to lead him to Germany.

His father, a self-taught violinist, had shown him the basics and Vasile started busking in German cities. Handsome, with jet-black hair, he enchanted passers-by with his renditions of Mozart and Vivaldi as well as Romanian folk tunes.

A well-wisher tipped off Professor Grevesmühl who, convinced of his exceptional talent, took him under her wing. She gave him free tuition, arranged a better-quality violin, took him into

her chamber orchestra and even occasionally allowed him to play on her Stradivarius. Vasile quickly learnt German and musical theory, and practised all day. The German NDR orchestra expressed interest in hiring him.

The professor ensured that he was admitted — despite his imperfect German — to the Bremen Academy of Arts, where he became a popular figure in the student community. He was the only student to appear in class every day in a suit and tie.

As his technical skills improved, he came into conflict with his mentor. "Sometimes it was like a secret power struggle between them," said another violinist. He began to shrug off the professor's advice. The tension between them is used by the prosecution to explain why Vasile may have suddenly turned against his teacher: he was resentful of the Stradivarius that gave Professor Grevesmühl her artistic edge.

Yet Vasile's defence lawyers argue that the Romanian must have known that the Stradivarius was as difficult to sell on the black market as a Rembrandt. It was therefore improbable that he entered a deal with his countryman to steal and sell the violin. The case continues.



Ethnic Albanians queue in Srbica yesterday to identify the bodies of 48 people killed in the village of Prekaz by Serbian security forces

## US envoy says Serbs 'trampled on rule of law'

THE US envoy to the Balkans, Robert Gelbard, flew to Kosovo yesterday, condemning Serbian violence against ethnic Albanians and supporting calls for international investigations of police offenses that have claimed nearly 80 lives.

Mr Gelbard's condemnation helped to restore his standing in Kosovo, where many Albanians had criticised him for previously calling the Kosovo Liberation Army a terrorist organisation — a description which they say encouraged President Milosevic of Yugoslavia to



America's denunciation of the Kosovo crackdown restored credit with the Albanians, writes Tom Walker in Pristina

launch the crackdown. "The Serbs have resorted to violence," Mr Gelbard said. "I am deeply saddened to be here in the wake of such a tragedy, and I send my condolences to all the families." He added that he had told Mr Milosevic two weeks ago that the US was aware

through satellite pictures, of the Serbian security force build-up in Kosovo. He denounced a "heavy-handed and disproportionate" police action. "This Government has trampled on the rule of law," he added. In Belgrade last night the Serbian Government called

on Albanian representatives from Kosovo to hold an "open dialogue" to settle all disputes in the province.

Initially it seemed that Mr Gelbard might become embroiled in the controversy over burying the 48 Albanians killed in the village of Prekaz. But by yesterday the mood here had changed, and the Albanians had dropped their demands for post-mortem examinations to be carried out by an international group on the Prekaz dead.

A dramatic change in the weather left Kosovo largely subdued yesterday. Heavy

overnight snowfalls made travel difficult, and the police made matters worse by closing all roads leading to their operational centre at Srbica, where the bodies of the 48 dead from Prekaz were still being identified.

Many Albanians making the journey to Srbica were told that a truck had overturned, forcing closure of the road for the rest of the day. The story sounded symptomatic of the Serbs' desperation to avoid another embarrassing mass funeral.

Simon Jenkins, page 16

## Aldo Moro rescue plan 'suppressed'

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

THE Rome prosecutor's office yesterday said it was investigating Giulio Andreotti, the former Prime Minister, for allegedly suppressing an anti-terrorist rescue plan that might have saved Aldo Moro.

Prosecutors said Signor Andreotti was suspected of having destroyed papers relating to the plan, which only came to light recently in Interior Ministry archives. They have asked the Italian Senate to lift his parliamentary immunity.

Signor Andreotti dismissed the allegation as "ridiculous". Now 78, he was Prime Minister seven times and dominated the Christian Democratic Party, which

ruled Italy almost uninterrupted after the Second World War but collapsed amid scandals in 1992. He is already on trial on two separate charges related to the Mafia.

Moro's murder in 1978 has long been a mystery, even though several members of the Red Brigades were convicted. Moro, a left-leaning Christian Democrat Prime Minister, was kidnapped as he was about to attend a session of parliament which would have approved the "historic compromise" of bringing the Communist Party into government for the first time, a move opposed by right-wing Christian Democrats.

Moro's five bodyguards were killed in a professional kidnapping which conspiracy theorists maintain was beyond the

capabilities of the Red Brigades. The Andreotti Government failed to respond to Moro's anguished letters from captivity. *Il Messaggero* said the unused rescue plan, drawn up by Interior and Defence Ministry officials, had been found with an Interior Ministry note attached to the file reading: "Chief de Cabinet: the Prime Minister says he wants this to disappear." The Interior Minister at the time, Francesco Cossiga, confirmed the existence of the plan.

*La Repubblica* said it remained "unclear whether the failure to save Moro was due to the inefficiency of the police or a decision by someone high up to take advantage of a terrorist act to eliminate a political opponent".



General Pinochet wipes away a tear during his emotional speech to the nation in Santiago

## Pinochet retreats to safety of Senate

BY DAVID ADAMS

CHILE'S former iron-fisted dictator, General Augusto Pinochet, who ruled his country for almost two decades, retired yesterday as Commander-in-Chief of the army.

The controversy will not end, however, with his standing down. Under a deal protecting him from prosecution for alleged human rights abuses under his rule, he is due to be sworn in as a senator for life today giving him instant legal immunity.

At his retirement ceremony yesterday at the Military School in the capital, Santiago, the general, 82, handed over the Commander-in-Chief baton to General Ricardo Izurieta, his successor widely viewed as a professional soldier with a clean human rights record.

Pinochet supporters gathered outside to salute a man some Chileans credit with rescuing the country from communism. "General Pinochet, Saviour of the Nation," they shouted. "Fatherland of mine, I've been your soldier and that makes me happy," said General Pinochet, whose voice broke with emotion during his farewell speech. He was honoured in a parade by 3,000 soldiers and 2,000 guests led by President Frei.

The general delivered a mostly military speech, but he recalled the bloody 1973 coup in which he toppled the Marxist President Allende. He said the military was forced to act because the nation "was on the brink of self-destruction as the result of the political conflict".

He added: "The armed forces can now proudly say: mission accomplished. As I retire today, I can say I leave the army in a situation that is a source of pride for Chile." Security was tight after three days of demonstrations. On Monday about 100 protesters shouting "murderer" demonstrated outside the palace where Señor Pinochet met President Frei.

## Mafia 'godmother' is jailed in Sicily

BY RICHARD OWEN

A COURT in Sicily yesterday jailed the first woman to be condemned as a Mafia boss. Maria Catena Cammarata, 44, was jailed for six-and-a-half years at the high-security courtroom in Caltanissetta, which is used for anti-Mafia trials.

Another woman, the wife of a jailed Mafia boss in the Naples area, has also been arrested on a similar charge. Police said Cammarata, who worked in the post office in the village of Riesi, in the Palermo hinterland, had been arrested in April 1996 on suspicion of intercepting telephone calls to the local police station.

It had emerged from police investigations that she had a larger role in Cosa Nostra, and had taken over the running of the local Mafia clan, after her two brothers — the family "chieftains" — had gone on the run. They were still in hiding. Gilberto

Ganassi, the prosecutor, said it was "the first proven case in Sicily in which a woman has taken over from men at the top of a Cosa Nostra outfit". Although she had maintained *omertà*, the vow of silence, police had uncovered irrefutable proof that she had run a criminal network, including drugs and gun-running.

In Naples, police reported they had arrested Gemina Donnarumma, 44, the wife of Valentino Glonti, boss of the Camorra in the Torre Annunziata area. He is serving a life sentence for the murder of a journalist. She said that, like Cammarata, Donnarumma had taken over the clan from its male boss.

The Mafia is a traditionally male-dominated "criminal brotherhood", with the wives, sisters and mothers of mafiosi playing a supporting role and holding Mafia families together when clan bosses are jailed.

## Auckland switches on again

Auckland: New Zealand's largest city had 90 per cent of its power restored yesterday after a two-week power failure that the electricity supplier put down to the heat of an unusually warm summer.

Les Mills, the Mayor of Auckland, suspended the daily meeting of the emergency committee as shoppers and office workers began to move back into the city centre, which lost its four main power supply cables on February 20.

Mercury Energy, the city's power supplier, said that unusually warm weather and the simple force of gravity had emerged as the likely causes of disruption that caused one of the main cables into the city centre to fail.

It was still not clear why the other oil-filled cable and two gas-filled cables had also failed, plunging the city centre into darkness, the company added. (Reuters)

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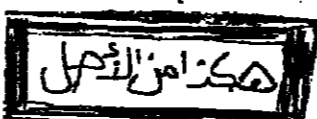
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# Party chief who backed the Tiananmen crackdown faces corruption trial



Chen Xitong: disgraced

FROM JAMES FRINGLE  
IN BEIJING  
IN AN apparent move to placate public anger over high-level corruption, China's parliament was told yesterday that investigations into a scandal surrounding disgraced Communist Party chief Chen Xitong had finished.

## 'Mr Clean' offers former Beijing boss as scapegoat for public anger over bribery

Politburo, Mr Chen, 67, is the highest-ranking party official brought to account for corruption since the Communist takeover of 1949.

A hardliner and one of those behind the violent crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing's Tiananmen Square on June 4, 1989, Mr Chen may be tried publicly, some sources say. However, party insiders are believed to be worried that Mr Chen, whose power base was among city bureaucrats, may accuse other high-ranking party members of corruption if given such a platform.

He has been accused of having an "unshirkable responsibility" for the scandal that led to the death by shooting on a hillside outside Beijing — officially by suicide — of a former Deputy Mayor, Wang Baosen. Mr Chen has disappeared from public view since he was ousted as party boss in September 1995, expelled from the Communist Party and handed over to criminal prosecutors last September. He was allegedly involved in bribery connected with the capital's huge construction projects in the Eighties and early Nineties.

At the time of his downfall and Wang's death, tales circulated in Beijing about mistresses and wild parties with sexy models at a hotel owned by the municipality. Mr Chen was accused of having abused his power to help relatives and aides to run businesses and of being responsible for the criminal activities of the disgraced Wang.

The Communist Party chief, Jiang Zemin, who has cast himself in the role of "Mr Clean", has called corruption a virus and a life-and-death matter that threatened the party's hold on power.

# Militant Hindus face vote test for coalition rule

INDIA'S right-wing Hindu nationalists were invited last night to demonstrate that they are able to form a viable government — the first cautious response by President Narayanan to a fractured general election result that left no party capable of forming a majority administration.

## Muslims hope hardliners will be reined in, Christopher Thomas writes

It will doubtless turn out to be the first step towards ushering into power some of the country's most hardline politicians. The Bharatiya Janata Party, which grew out of obscurity in the 1980s on a platform of religious extremism, will have to prove that it has firm offers of support from other parties and, if it can, to submit itself to a confidence motion in parliament.

There may not be a formal vote when and if the BJP submits itself to a confidence motion. A show of hands would be enough to confirm into office India's least understood government, in which political extremists would be aligned with moderates and religious hardliners with secularists.

The fight for ideological control of a BJP-led government would be critical for the direction of a country that has preserved its secular traditions despite anti-Muslim sentiment whipped up by hardline Hindu politicians over the years, including some of the BJP's ideological allies and, indeed, by elements within the BJP.



Atal Behari Vajpayee, the BJP leader, reads the President's letter on the formation of a new government

Mr Vajpayee, known internationally from an earlier tenure as Foreign Minister, would be cautious in putting forward the party's more controversial policies for fear of bringing his government

majority, and survive only so long as its opponents permitted.

Mr Vajpayee said last night that it was as much the responsibility of the Opposition as the Government to provide stability. It looks like he will soon begin his second stint as Prime Minister: he held the job for two weeks after the last general election less than two years ago, before being ousted in a confidence

vote. It set a new record for political instability. This time, too, he would doubtless find himself preoccupied less with government than with survival as India stumbles into a new political era.

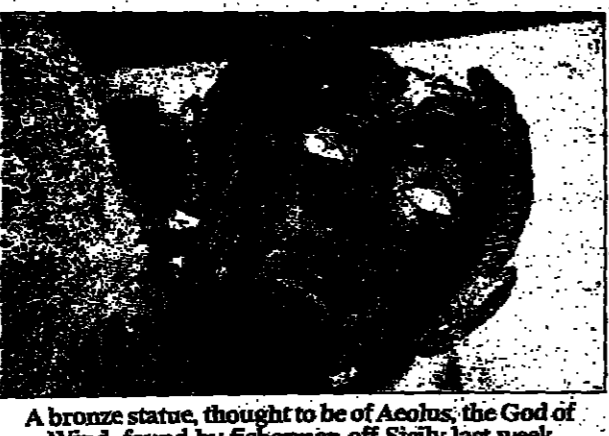
# Chinese dissident censures Europe's inaction

BY MICHAEL BINYON  
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

ON THE eve of a meeting today with Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, Wei Jingsheng, the Chinese dissident, denounced Britain and other European countries for refusing to condemn Chinese human rights violations.

He particularly condemned the Labour Party, saying: "I don't understand why a party that supports the rights of workers in one country is ready to sell out the rights of workers in another country." He accused the Europeans of pursuing their own economic interests in China at the expense of human rights, saying: "Human rights are not improving but degenerating — but they do not believe it." He said that last year several countries split the European position in Geneva, but this year, under the British presidency, the entire EU had abandoned its stance on human rights and democracy.

# Italian Navy gets orders to join the hunt for ancient treasures



A bronze statue, thought to be of Aeolus, the God of Wind, found by fishermen off Sicily last week

FROM RICHARD OWEN  
IN ROME  
ITALY is to use its navy to retrieve archaeological treasures lost at sea, as part of a drive to recover the glories of ancient Rome in the run-up to the millennium celebrations.

Walter Veltroni, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Culture, said he had asked the Italian Navy to make available minesweepers carrying underwater equipment such as sonars and submersibles to "sweep the seabed to find statues and other cargoes lost in ancient battles or storms".

Experts say many ships loaded with treasure were lost on the ancient Mediterranean trade routes, and Italy is hoping to reach agreements with Greece and Tunisia on joint underwater exploration. The initiative follows a series of discoveries which have encouraged the Government to invest in archaeological projects.

Last week fishermen working 60 miles off the coast of Sicily found a magnificent late Hellenistic bronze statue in their nets. Experts believe it represents Aeolus, the Greek God of Wind, and may be part of a group. It is missing both arms. In Rome, archaeologists last week uncovered a hitherto-unknown mural deep beneath the Baths of Trajan, near the Colosseum, apparently depicting the city before it burned down under Nero in AD64, with fortified walls, a covered bridge across the Tiber, and an amphitheatre.

Signor Veltroni said excavations of Nero's seaside palace at Anzio could bring to light similar "exciting finds". On Friday Eugenio La Rocca, the Superintendent of Archaeology, disclosed the discovery of the foundations of the first and most important temple in Rome, the 2,500-year-old Temple of Jupiter, during restoration of the Palazzo Caffarelli on Capitol Hill. Archaeologists said they had found a platform one hundred yards square, made up of blocks of stone 3 1/2 in long, 19 1/2 in wide and 12 in thick, below the floor of the palace.

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## Three die as Israelis open fire on van

Tarqumia, West Bank Israeli troops at a West Bank checkpoint opened fire on a van packed with Palestinian labourers, killing three and wounding four, others, two seriously.

The border guards started shooting after the vehicle slightly injured a soldier as it drove through the checkpoint near the border with Israel. The guards said they believed the van had tried to run them down, but other witnesses cited on Israel radio said the vehicle apparently swerved out of control because of a mechanical problem.

The van was carrying Palestinian workers back to their West Bank homes from jobs in Israel when it passed through the checkpoint near Hebron. Palestinians who witnessed the shooting attacked the Israeli forces with stones and bottles. Troops retaliated with rubber bullets and teargas, but no further injuries were reported, according to witnesses.

A spokesman for Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian Authority leader, held the Israeli Government responsible. "We condemn this army firing on civilians and we hold the Israeli authorities responsible," said Nabil Abu Rudeina. "The Israelis opened fire for no reason."

The killings were expected to worsen tensions at a time of Palestinian frustration with the year-long deadlock in peace negotiations with Israel's right-wing Government. There was no immediate response to the shooting from the Israeli Government. (AFP)

## Nigerians restore leader to Freetown

BY SAM KILEY  
AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

IN A bizarre twist of West African politics and war, Sierra Leone celebrated the return to democratic civilian rule reimposed by Nigeria's military Government, which crushed the ten-month reign of a fellow junta in Freetown.

Nigeria's President, General Sani Abacha, who took power in a 1992 coup and has since suffered international isolation, yesterday escorted Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, Sierra Leone's President, as he arrived home at Freetown's Lungi international airport. They were guarded by Nigerian troops, to whom both now owe their positions.

"We are going to make this a new beginning for Sierra Leone," Mr Kabbah told the thousands of jubilant Sierra Leoneans who greeted him.

Mr Kabbah urged reconciliation as imams, bishops and witch doctors offered blessings for his return after ten months in exile. Since he was deposed by the rebel Revolutionary United Front and government soldiers under Major Johnny Paul Koroma, hundreds of thousands have been made homeless and at least 30,000 have been killed.

London: Britain announced an immediate airlift of £1 million-worth of technical and logistical support to help the reinstated Government (Michael Binyon writes). It will also contribute £1 million to the existing programme of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

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# The teenage gangs killing Japan

## Simon Rawles on how drugs, sex, violence and Western vices are tearing tradition apart

On Friday night the neon-flooded streets of downtown Yokohama reverberate to the thundering of customised cars and motorbikes. *Shakotan* — low-slung cars with garish fur-lined interiors — are crammed with doll-like girls and po-faced boys, and wok-sized speakers boom tacky Japanese pop into the midnight air. Bikers, known as *bosozoku*, throttle their exhausts and push their Kawasaki and Yamaha to breakneck speeds.

Japanese teenagers have been tearing up and down streets, astonishing passers-by and confounding police, since 1965. The thunderbolt tribes, as they were then known, have been torch-bearers of Japanese delinquency ever since. Only the thrill-seekers of today, it seems, are experimenting with even

police when explaining recent violent trends such as *Oyuri-gari* (lad hunting), where middle-aged commuters are mugged.

Yet police statistics indicate a falling crime rate. Between 1986 and 1995, the number of juvenile delinquents in Tokyo fell by half to just under 60,000. Academics believe these figures to be unreliable, however, and have pointed to Japan's rapidly declining birth-rate; there are now fewer teenagers than pensioners.

"Japan is very scared," says Terry, a 27-year-old English teacher from Birmingham who has lived in Osaka for four years. "Kids are rebelling against an authoritarian school system that doesn't allow them to be who they want to be. In my school last year a teacher was threatened with a knife, one was beaten up and more kids are getting into solvent abuse. On the other hand, teachers have been known to hit kids for minor offences like chewing gum. There is a lot of tension."

For some commentators, the problem seems to be one of changing values. "It's definitely harder to teach now compared with five years ago," says Mr Watanabe, a consultant on Japan's Board of Education. "The gap between good and bad behaviour is blurring, and Japan is recognising that we need to make our schools more for the heart." More worrying for officials is the wider availability of drugs. The most popular is *lighter fuel*, sold for as little as 200 Yen (£1).

The next is speed, which young girls use to lose weight. The trade is controlled by the highly organised *Yakuza* (Japanese mafia) and distributed by the local *bosozoku*.

An alarming rise in young girls taking part in *Enjo Kosei* (subsidised socialising) has caught the imagination of the Japanese media: high-school girls dressed in white shirts and short pleated skirts date middle-aged businessmen for money to buy such goods as Gucci bags and mobile phones. The trend, which developed from an earlier fad when street vending machines sold schoolgirls' knickers, has forced the Government to introduce an age of consent.

Postwar Japan has opened up to the world more than ever before. America's influence is striking, and it seems traditional Japan is losing out. Conformity is so ingrained here that one teen magazine was called *Hetbon*, meaning average, and even rebellious *bosozoku* magazines proudly display graduate pages showing happily married ex-bikers. With individualism at odds with Japan's deep-rooted social homogeneity, it is no wonder the strain is beginning to show.



Road rebel: a *bosozoku*

On Monday, a 13-year-old boy stabbed a classmate to death at a school near Tokyo. The killing was the fourth in a series of teenage murders over the past year, including one by a 14-year-old Japanese boy who chopped the head off a fellow pupil and left it at the school gates. This week Japan's chief cabinet secretary, Kaneko Muraoka, reflected the widely held view that crime is becoming motiveless violence: "The younger generation lacks a basic ethical sense of the importance of life. They appear to be unable to distinguish between right and wrong."

Ed Gutierrez, a writer who has lived in Kyoto for five years, says: "They seem to be getting louder and more dangerous. There was an incident in July involving an English language teacher who was being offensive to some Japanese girls. The girls were with a young biker who dialled his mobile and within minutes a group of *bosozoku* armed with bats arrived to take care of him. They pounded him to the ground."

Fights involving steel bars, knives and home-made brass knuckles between packs of up to 30 are becoming commonplace. Tomoko, 17, challenges rivals in midnight races through Tokyo's salubrious residential district, *Waseda*. "Most of the fighting is done on the road. We have our territory to control, so if we encounter other *bosozoku* we will fight them by driving. We race and if we lose we give the area away to the winner, unless we don't like how they act. That's when we get angry."

*Bosozoku* are the most visible sign of disaffection among Japanese youths. Flamboyant vehicles, theatrical costumes and fondness for the odd scuffle make the *bosozoku* easy scapegoats for the media and



"I wanted to write about people who live with anxiety because of their husband's job. It turned out to be about the grittier side of female friendship"

# Making a ripple

## Novelist Angela Huth knows everyone — and writes about them in her diaries. Interview by Valerie Grove

Angela Huth's eighth novel, *Wives of the Fishermen*, is a salt-caked tale set on the chill Scottish coast. For one who moves in rarefied circles — she is married to an Oxford don and is a regular guest at royal residences — this is something of a departure from her novels of middle-class mores.

You may see her at parties, small and quick, darting about, dropping a flattering word, listening intently, head cocked. All the while she is observing mischievously, storing up riveting details such as people's often unfortunate

choice of clothes. Among her friends there is a complex expectation that they will not be spared the merciless scrutiny of the foolscap diary in which she has been scribbling for 30 years.

Of course, she denies that her diaries — chronicling three marriages and sundry liaisons — are incendiary. "Like Ruskin I write a lot about the weather: 'Grey day again.' I don't record much dialogue, although I always tried to get down what Isaiah Berlin said, when I sat next to him. What my diaries are for is to stop my whingeing to anybody else.

Other people go to therapists and 'find themselves'. I just write 'Grey day again.'"

She was the elder of two daughters of Harold Huth, star of the silent screen. "He was rather a good actor — always the villain. He got an Oscar for a film called *The Outsider*. But he was multitalented: wrote well, drew, played the piano. He was my hero really." They lived in a Queen Anne house in 26 Woodes, Buckinghamshire, where she was writing plays by the age of eight. "I would always begin with the title. I wrote endless lists of titles. And I find I do the same today."

She went at eight to an eccentric boarding school, Lawnside, a house where Shaw had once leapfrogged over the birdbath and played piano duets with Elgar, and Langslow's dog was buried in the garden. "It was run by Miss Barrows, an Edwardian figure who would say: 'I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, gazing towards the Malvern Hills. She could be quite brisk and tough, but one could recognise the goodness in her eyes.'"

Angela learnt no maths, science or geography but there was an inspiring English teacher, Miss Dillon-Weston: Dame Laura Knight's work adorned the hall; singing was taught by Ivor Atkins, friend of Elgar, in his stiff collar, waistcoat and fob watch; and they had Dan Maskell to coach their forehead drive. "And we were taught public speaking because Miss Barrows said: 'You will all be asked to open fetes.' It was 14 years before I opened a fete."

University was not even thought of; she was destined to be one of the last debutantes. She was sent to a convent in Switzerland, to the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Paris, at 16, and to Florence as one of Annigoni's six pupils "when there were no tourists, and one could sit and draw and paint for hours. But I never kidded myself that I was an artist."

She browbeat Jocelyn Stevens into giving her a job on *Queen* magazine, where she met and married the writer Quentin Crewe, known as "Q", who has never allowed

People go to therapists and 'find themselves'. I write 'grey day again'.

Candida were born in the same year; they also discovered they share a petrifying phobia about dolls, masks or any simulacra of the human form.

Though still devoted to Q, Angela left him for the film director Tony Palmer, an unhappy period over which she draws a veil. "I have many veils to be drawn," she reflects, "but perhaps they will be unveiled in my memoirs." She bolted from the marriage and bought a country cottage, thanks to Rex Harrison buying the film rights to her first novel, *Nowhere Girl*. "The film was never made because Rex wanted Shirley MacLaine to play the young English girl."

Her next novel, *Virginia Fly is Drowning*, was also bought for a film but the producer wanted it translated from Surrey to the Bronx and to star Barbra Streisand. In fact, it was televised, with Anna Massey playing the spinster whose life is invaded by a television documentary on virginity. For that novel, Huth drew on her experiences on *Man Alive*, Desmond Wilcox's pioneering 1960s programme where people were encouraged to

talk about being in prison, or life as a prostitute, or living with death: it was a good novelist's training. In those days the interviewer was hardly seen, so only the back of the then blonde Huth head was on screen: "Quite right, too. I believe the interviewer should be a mere catalyst."

For the past 22 years she has been married to James Howard-Johnston, a Byzantine history don at Oxford who is also Earl Haig's grandson and Lord Dacre's stepson, and the father of her 17-year-old daughter Engenie. He is usually preoccupied Casaubon-like with an interminable work on the end of the ancient world. They live in penny she claims in a Gothic old rectory-style house built by the architect of Keble College — "It has a touch of Hammer Horror about it, but the finest beech tree in Oxford."

Occasionally, she brings forth a collection of witty short stories or a play. Her last one, *The Trouble with Old Lovers*, deserved a West End airing but failed to make it out of High Wycombe. Her novels are now published in France where she is known as Angela Hoot. "It's quite nice after 30 years to find you've made a ripple in a very small pond."

The film of her last novel, *Land Girls*, will be released this summer. Huth met the producer Ruth Jackson when they made a television film,

Despite her passion for entertaining, she retreats to the Norfolk coast where she can get six times as much written, including those diaries. "They are not for publication, although perhaps my children will find them useful. They sometimes ask about one's youth, and you can't really sit over breakfast and encompass your life of the past 40 years can you?"

Incredibly, she will be 60 this year. "I know it's deeply unfashionable not to claim to enjoy ageing," she says warily, "but I have to say I don't."

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University was not even thought of; she was destined to be one of the last debutantes. She was sent to a convent in Switzerland, to the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Paris, at 16, and to Florence as one of Annigoni's six pupils "when there were no tourists, and one could sit and draw and paint for hours. But I never kidded myself that I was an artist."

She browbeat Jocelyn Stevens into giving her a job on *Queen* magazine, where she met and married the writer Quentin Crewe, known as "Q", who has never allowed

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Fathers, daughters and fantasy + Can the courts ever give Louise justice? + A tasteless Lottery tribute to the Princess + The school that denies Darwin

Freud is dead! Long live Freud! When Jeffrey Masson, the fallen favourite of psychoanalysis — once, apparently, his son and heir and now its fiercest detractor — accused Freud of suppressing actual cases of incest and child abuse for fear of offending the Viennese bourgeoisie through which most of his work came, his revelations and condemnations aroused tremendous attention. And his furious interest seemed to be of vital importance to those who had practiced psychoanalysis; somehow Masson seemed to ignite the public's interest and arouse its anger.

In truth, Masson has been largely sidelined if not ignored by those in the profession he condemns, and not just — as he claims — out of arrogance or defensiveness. They refuse to buy his story or accept his interpretation. And they are surely vindicated by recent developments in the scandalous field of recovered-memory syndrome, which has culminated this week in a case being brought — the first of its kind — against a local authority health trust and a social work department, for the part both played in the allegedly false accusations of sexual abuse made by a mentally ill daughter against her father.

I know nothing of this case in particular, and any comments I

## A childhood trauma we dare not face

Nigella Lawson



make are necessarily general. My interest or aim here is neither specific, nor personal. But surely we need to ask whether Masson and the various medical and women's groups who have argued, like him, that Freud's claims led to the enormous suffering of a great many women, whose real experiences were being written off as fantasy, have themselves been guilty of distorting the truth.

Freud did rework his theory about the sexual abuse of daughters by fathers, but it is hard to argue convincingly that the Viennese bourgeoisie would have been any more accepting of a theory which posited that these daughters were fantasising a sexual relationship with their fathers. We think we are evolved, modern, liberal, accepting; and look how shocked we still are at such a theory.

The whole idea of repressed-memory syndrome surely stems from an inability to bear such an

idea. As horrific as incest must appear to us, we find it easier to accept than a theory which makes us consider that a child may have it in her to invent such a claim, or to question why.

I should make it clear that I don't deny incest happens, and that fathers do rape daughters. But one thing we have to face, as no doubt more and more of such cases are brought, is that many such claims are bogus. And I don't say that these daughters are attempting consciously to punish their fathers; no doubt while they make the claim, they believe in its veracity.

Of course, cranky recovered-memory therapists play a part in all this, and this is in some

measure a reflection of their sexual-political stance — but mostly, I suspect, it's due simply to an inability to get beyond the literal; they don't understand what might be unconsciously motivating their patients, so they can hardly help those patients to do so for themselves.

Nevertheless, to avoid inquiring why these allegations are made, what fuels them, is clearly unsatisfactory. This is not saying that there is no smoke without fire — which sentiment underlines why bogus claims can do so much irrevocable damage — but that this is always, necessarily, going to be an incendiary issue.

### Where justice and law part

I UNDERSTAND the difference between law and justice — just about the biggest chasm one could

### No way to remember Diana

WHAT I find hard to accept is that we live in a world in which there is such a thing as a Princess Diana Lottery Scratch Card. Of course we are told, in the words of Kenny Everett's porn star, that "it's all done in the best possible taste", but there are some things which go beyond even the worst taste, and this is one of them. Anything done for money is OK now, and if that money's to go to charity, then there's no debate. Good causes outweigh acts of bad faith. I even heard, on PM the other day, a couple of people lining up to buy these cards, declaring piously that it was "a way to remember her". This, truly, is another, no less distasteful, example of false-memory syndrome.

Imagine — but all the same there is something grating about Louise Woodward's lawyers' claims that their client must be innocent because Matthew Eappen's injuries may have stemmed from an earlier date.

Naturally, lawyers understand that difference even better than the rest of us: few of them are interested in justice — it's the law they love. We, on the other hand, are fascinated by what really happened here. So when one of her lawyers says that there is "conclusive, uncontested scientific evidence that there was no murder on February 4", we quite rightly assume that it says nothing about Woodward's guilt or innocence here. It's quite right, of course, that a trial must be conducted accordingly: I accept that a correct conviction can be an unsafe one;

and I rather suspect that this is one such example.

The more I see how badly a baby boy can hurt himself by accident, and still come out of it unscathed, the less I believe that the injuries Matthew Eappen had inflicted on him could have an innocent explanation. Again, this says nothing about just who might have inflicted them, but the idea that some unfortunate, one-off and culpless incident could be to blame is suspiciously unconvincing — as, indeed, the jury which listened to days upon days of evidence concluded.

But then the jury felt their duty was to justice; Judge Hiller Zobel wanted the court to come to a legally satisfactory conclusion. We just have to accept that in this case the gap between the two may never be bridged.

### Why pay for intolerance?

WHEN in doubt, play the race card. There are very good reasons for withholding state funding for a Seventh-Day Adventist church school; unfortunately, once you start hearing mutterings about racism and the State's failure to meet the demands of black pupils, those reasons are not going to be very confidently put.

It is a sensitive issue: the school has a predominance of black pupils; they and their parents feel that the Government's refusal to fund it, while supporting schools of other faiths, is unfair. But this is one of the difficulties of confusing State and God.

There is one very good reason for the Government's refusing to cough up. Let's start with the fact that Seventh-Day Adventists do not accept Darwin's theory of evolution. Well, that's fine, but I do not see how such a belief is compatible with the aims of education. You cannot have state schools pushing Creationism. This is not about learning that there are other views of the world, but rather that there is only one. It's bad enough to posit that intolerance should be tolerated in the name of liberalism, let alone that it should receive state subsidy.

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## When new money meets old money

Lord Brocket, languishing at Her Majesty's pleasure, is sorely missed by the staff at his former country seat. Jason Cowley reports

Should Lord Brocket return to his ancestral home when he leaves prison later this year, he will find things much changed. Gone is the faded elegance of Brocket Hall, the fraying curtains and carpets, the dishevelled furnishings and fabrics. Gone, too, is the bright echo of family parties — replaced by a new, more clinical order, and by the constant sound of builders ripping up bathrooms and modernising facilities.

The entrance hall of the Georgian mansion offers a flavour of the changes. Where once there was only ornate furniture, there are now contemporary wooden tables and lamps, thick gold paint. "It's become all rather hotel-y," complains Mike Roe, an under-butler. Or, as one housekeeper puts it: "The entrance hall has all the subtlety of a tandoori restaurant".

This, of course, is not strictly true: for what is occurring at Brocket Hall is a culture clash of a quintessentially English kind — between old money and new, between hierarchy and meritocracy, between staff unstintingly loyal to the erratic order of Brocket, and money men from the Far East, the new owners of the hall.

Lord Brocket was jailed in 1996 for his part in a £4.5 million insurance fraud involving the faked theft of antique Ferraris. He left behind the debris of a failed marriage, to Isa Lorenzo, the society beauty and former fashion model; and the ruins of a collapsed dream to transform Brocket Hall into one of the country's most profitable conference centres.

He almost pulled it off, too. "What brought his lordship down was his over-ambition," says Alan Davidson-Lamb, a Brocket loyalist and head butler at the hall for the past 12 years. "He was determined to offer the best service, but as a single business gentleman he found it too difficult to compete with the exclusive London hotels. I'm afraid when Her Majesty took him at her pleasure, he had many problems."

Mr Davidson-Lamb ("Please, call me Alan,") speaks in the hushed, deferential tones of a storybook butler.

His sentences are jewels of evasion, and he has the reticence of a man who has witnessed many indiscretions.

"His lordship once said to me," he continues, discreetly sucking on a mint: "Alan, the whole world's a stage, and what actors we are!"

His eyes water a little at the memory. "How I miss his lordship, his charisma and charm. It was always a magical moment when he and Lady Brocket joined the guests. He was always a gentleman to the staff, tolerating our personal foibles. He was a man for all seasons, and everything he did was to enhance the continuing endeavours of the hall."

As for Lady Brocket, later revealed as deeply troubled, she was: "Full of softness and femininity. She loved sharing a joke and a cigarette behind the scenes with the staff, and she never interfered with his Lordship's... er, professional endeavours." She now lives in Puerto Rico with her three children.

But that was then. Since 1995 Brocket Hall has been owned by Dieter Kloster-



Changing faces at the hall: Michael Longshaw has introduced a culture of Filofaxes and mission statements where once Lord and Lady Brocket presided over faded splendour

mann, a German entrepreneur based in Hong Kong, whose company CCA Holdings paid a reported £10 million for a 60-year lease of the property and 543 acres.

The new lord of the manor at Brocket, the man the domestic staff call "Sir", is Michael Longshaw, a former physical education teacher turned hotel troubleshooter. Together with Klostermann, he set up the London Capital Club in 1994, the only dining club in the City offering equal status to men and women. "I have more than a decade and a half of experience of trading hotels out of receivership," he says. "I'm here to make Brocket Hall work as a profitable conference centre. Yet, arriving at the hall, he found an organisation in turmoil. The roof was leaking, the curtains and carpets were tatty and we hardly had any bookings."

But aren't frayed curtains part of the allure of a family home like Brocket?

"Not to me," Longshaw says, solemnly. "They just looked shabby."

He is aware of unhappiness among Lord Brocket's former staff over what Alan Davidson-Lamb, with characteristic butlerish understatement, calls his "academic style of management". Longshaw listens patiently to his summary of their complaints: that he speaks entirely in management jargon; that they resent having to carry mission statements in their personal Filofaxes; that they feel that being made to communicate via walkie-talkies is, as Mike Roe says, "not in character with Brocket"; that profit is all. "Look," Longshaw counters, "there were two types of staff here when I arrived: those who used Brocket for personal gain and those who wanted it to succeed. We had to make changes."

Mike Gregory, who left recently after five years as chef, did not respond to the changes. "They do things differently now," he says from

Tsu, his new Japanese restaurant in West London. "I appreciate that business isn't good and that Longshaw has a good record at making money; but life has to be about more than the pursuit of profit. I'm a cook and for me the detail is all-important — how something smells, looks and tastes. Get this right — profitability will follow. The staff at Brocket need to have faith, belief and a common goal."

Yet for Gregory there is one compensation. "Brocket Hall is bigger than Longshaw, than me, bigger even than Lord

### The hall now has all the subtlety of a tandoori restaurant'

Brocket himself. It has its own magic and inner-life."

Following Mike Roe through the vast, shadowy rooms, along underground passageways and through secret doorways, you get a sense of the vastness and intrigue of the place. "See that snooker table over there," he says as we enter the Billiard Room, with its views over the River Lea, a canny natural water hazard for the golf course. "It is said that the former Prime Minister, Lord Palmerston died on there..." He lowers his voice. "He was having relations with a, er, chambermaid."

Mike served with Lord Brocket in the 14/20 Hussars, and speaks about the new management with lucidity and gloom. "I'm afraid I plan to move on soon. I've been here ten years, but the new management doesn't seem to understand the character of Brocket. I was so browned off recently that I allowed my hair



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# Blinded without science

John Maddox asks: if Clinton can invest in research, why can't Blair?

For a Government that promises in almost every breath to modernise Britain, new Labour is remarkably coy about its plans for scientific research, which many may think should be at the spearhead of any such exercise.

To be sure, ministers such as John Battle at the Department of Trade and Industry make encouraging noises from time to time: they appreciate, it seems, that researchers at British laboratories now believe themselves to be most disadvantaged relative to their competitors by the lack of modern equipment. But the line is that there cannot be any substantial increase of funds until the summer, when the great departmental spending review will be complete. And then the outcome will depend on the Government's judgment of priorities.

This is in stark contrast with government policy elsewhere, especially in the United States. President Clinton's recent State of the Union address was a hymn to the social benefits of technology and the basic science underpinning it. He credited American investment in science and technology in the past few decades with having

ton a few days before the State of the Union address. There is no sign as yet. It is not the style of British governments to plan to double spending during some fixed period. Yet Japan, hardly in good economic shape, is also doubling basic research spending in just a decade. The promised wonders of the Millennium Dome notwithstanding, can Britain risk opting out?

By any number of indices, Britain is spending less on basic research than its competitors. As a proportion of gross domestic product, for example, British spending on all research has declined steadily since 1970, from 2.7 to 1.8 per cent. The value of the spending has remained more or less constant, but GDP has grown. But the number of workers has also grown, so that there is less money to share. Hence the now-common adjudication of the research councils on research grant proposals: projects may be "approved, but unfunded".

The present discontent about the quality of the equipment, especially in university laboratories, also goes back to 1970, when the then Science Research Council made a special distribution of funds to

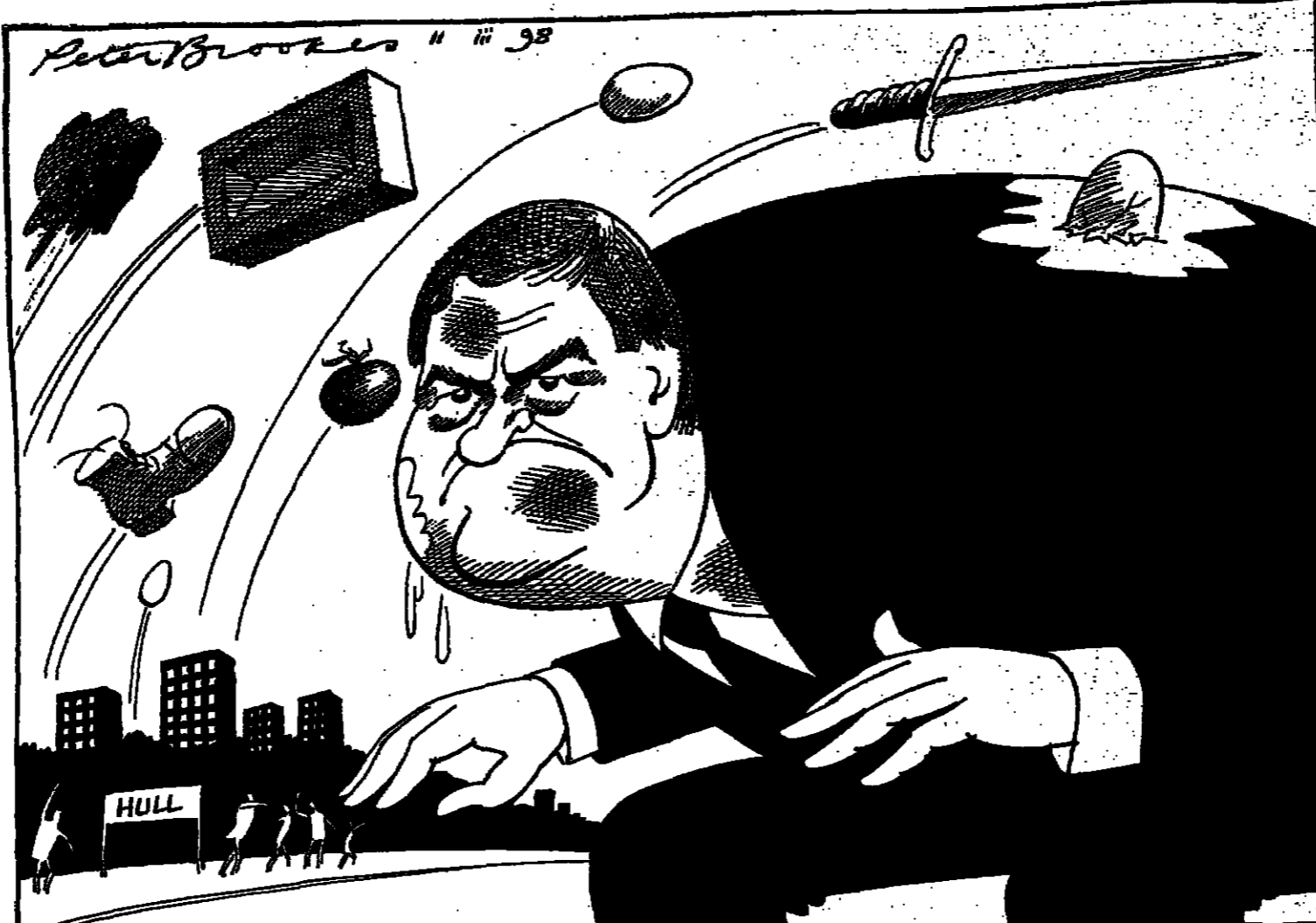
Scientists must have peace of mind to be creative

make good some glaring deficiencies. Much has changed since then. Gene technology, for good reasons, is all the rage. Re-equipping a biochemistry laboratory to enter the field can cost a cool £250,000. The research councils and the higher education funding councils are sympathetic, but they do not have the cash. With second-best equipment, however, there is no point in competing with the well-equipped laboratories in the United States and Japan, not to mention Germany.

There are deeper worries. The gradual erosion of research spending since 1970 has led to the cheapening of researchers' salaries and the worsening of their conditions of employment. Short-term contracts on rigid nationally agreed age-related scales now apply to 60 per cent of active researchers at universities. The effect on productivity is probably serious. The degree to which it puts young people off science can only be guessed at. It will need a substantial increase in support for basic research simply to remedy this state of affairs.

Modernising Britain is something else. It is all too easy to forget that research is a creative enterprise that requires in its practitioners some peace of mind and a degree of confidence that what they learn about the natural world will not be wasted by the now-familiar stop-go decisions of the funding system. At the least, the circumstances call for a long-term commitment by the Government along the lines of Clinton's address and budget. Promises that Britain will harness technology to create prosperity and social benefit will not suffice. Only cash will do the trick.

Sir John Maddox is Editor Emeritus of Nature.



"HULL IS OTHER PEOPLE..."

# Kosovo: too many cooks

The Foreign Secretary's imperialist recipe may make the Balkan cauldron boil over

As IRA mortars were being moved into firing position round Armagh police station on Monday, the mind of the British Foreign Secretary was far away. Under the gilt and stucco ceiling of Lancaster House in London, Robin Cook was "demanding" that the Serb-led Yugoslav Government get its guns out of a Balkan mountain province called Kosovo. As he toyed with his canapés, he sampled an economic sanction or two. He sipped an arms embargo and practised to himself a "disgraceful" and a "wholly unacceptable". He then declared that "we cannot support the violent repression of the non-violent expression of political views". It sounded good. The cameras whirred. As he and his Contact Group partners later settled into their limousines, they must have wondered why their other politicians find domestic policy so hard. Foreign policy is a doddle.

The British Government's Kosovo policy is a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma. Does new Labour demand full autonomy for Kosovo, or regional devolution, or partial self-government, or just the withdrawal of undisciplined army units? Is the might of the British State being marshalled behind the militant Jashari clan of Drenica or the moderates under Ibrahim Rugova? Where does it stand on the single transferable vote for the Pristina assembly? The value of using economic sanctions against the Serb leader, Slobodan Milosevic, is even more opaque. Mr Cook wanted on Monday to stop subsidising Belgrade's privatisation programme. It merely enriches Mr Milosevic's friends. If that is the case, why are British taxpayers subsidising it at all?

Mr Cook's American opposite number, Madeleine Albright, was scarcely more explicit. She indicated on Monday that the United Nations charter respecting the internal sovereignty of states is no longer recognised by America. Belgrade's handling of dissent was "an affront to the universal standards of human rights we are pledged to uphold". To Mr Cook, his "shock, dismay and concern" was reason enough for "demanding" of Mr Milosevic a policy shift, as yet unspecified.

Mr Cook's interventionism does not respect government legitimacy. Mr Milosevic may be corrupt, a thug and a nationalist bully, but he is

a constitutional ruler who won a sort of contested election and half-tolerates opposition parties. He appears to have the support of most Serbs. But having once entered Washington demology, he might as well be President Saddam Hussein. He is simply bad. The chief thing he and Saddam have in common is that they are rendered near impregnable by the ineptitude of British and American diplomacy.

The politics of sub-national separatism have always been fiendish. Britain of all countries should know that. When the rod of communism was lifted from Central and Eastern Europe, disparate groups were bound to seek autonomy, and central governments bound to stop them. So it has proved. I carry no brief for Mr Milosevic or his methods of suppressing the Kosovo Liberation Army and its clans in their villages at the weekend. The methods seem par for the Balkans over the past decade, indeed the past millennium. But what business is this of ours?

When Yugoslavia began to break up, most foreign nations sent humanitarian relief. This honoured the traditional obligation of charity the world over. Yet the British Government could not stop there. It was and is still in imperial mood, albeit under the wing of the US State Department. No party, creed nor incident is too distant for ministers not to have "a view". Britain opposed Bosnian separatism, then supported it. Britain opposed the Bosnian Serb republic, but now appears to have accepted it. This week Mr Cook appeared to support a Kosovan republic, or at least to oppose Mr Milosevic's efforts to forestall one. But then he... er... does not want the further fragmentation of the Balkans. That is an A-level question and he is still at GCSE.

Of course Mr Cook and Ms Albright will assert that it is not the politics that worries them, but the violence. The Jashari clan whose surviving members may yet enjoy cult status at Washington dinners,

should presumably not have been killed outright but brought into talks about talks. Yet America has no compunction about killing civilians to achieve political goals, as the citizens of Lebanon, Somalia, Panama and Iraq know to their cost.

Neither Mr Cook nor Ms Albright believe in lecturing the world without a gun in their pockets. Thus Ms Albright said she would not "rule out" the "severest consequences" if the Serbs fail to reach the unspecified political settlement. "Severest consequences" is the new euphemism for bombing. The phrase is beloved not just of Mr Cook and Ms Albright but of Tony Blair, Kofi Annan, Bill Clinton, even the new UN Human Rights Commissioner, Mary Robinson. Since bombing sounds indelicate on sophisticated lips, some other word must be found. "Severest consequences" is ethical diplomacy's version of the Cold War's "terminate with extreme prejudice", one more sanitisation of authorised violence.

Lancaster House on Monday saw a monumental hypocrisy. It may be no more than historical coincidence that this month America finally honoured two soldiers who tried to stop colleagues massacring 109 civilians at My Lai during the Vietnam War, to raise their "body count". Anyone who thought the habit had died will remember the helicopter gunship that "hosed" a marketplace crowd during the recent American occupation of Somalia. Meanwhile, a British Government has at last ordered an inquiry into the 1972 Bloody Sunday massacre, when paratroopers shot 13 men during a civil rights march in Northern Ireland. Such atrocities occur even in the best ordered democracies. They are not excusable, merely ubiquitous when politics collapses into rule by the gun. A report from Kosovo yesterday said the Albanians were so oppressed that the Serb police had to patrol in flak-jackets. The last visited Belgians, Had Yugoslavia, indeed had anyone, "demanded reforms" and sent a

"mediator" to Northern Ireland after Bloody Sunday, the British Government would have thought it an intolerable impertinence. Yet then and since, British politicians and officials have argued privately for killing IRA leaders and internment their families. American operations in Latin America in the 1980s were as much an "affront to universal standards of human rights" as those of Mr Milosevic. No nation's hands are so pure it can, in Dickens's phrase, top up the world's ills on a slate and dry its tears with a rag.

We are told everything has changed since the Cold War. The great powers have been liberated from self-defence to "do good". In Ms Albright's words, they have pledged themselves to defend human rights wherever they are threatened. For *civis Britannicus sum read civis orbis sum*. Dial 999, cry help and jets will stream to your aid, so long as safe passage is guaranteed to news media. (Tough luck Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Tibet and Timor: no Lancaster House histrionics in your cause.)

This is boutique foreign policy at its worst. It offers every separatist the hope of a lottery jackpot, sponsorship by the world's most powerful nations. It is a cruel hope. It was offered to the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina in their attempt to set up a state to defy Serbia. Thirty thousand British and other Nato troops are now trapped indefinitely in policing a partition that would be more secure had it been left to police itself, like that between Serbia and Croatia. Now Mr Cook and Ms Albright are blatantly hinting that, provided the Albanians of Kosovo kick up a sufficiently photogenic stink, they too may win autonomy from Serbia under the protection of Nato guns. What else is meant by imposing sanctions "to send a message to Milosevic"? What else is meant by "severest consequences or else"?

The only way to stop Serbia doing as it chooses in Kosovo is to invade it. All else is hot air. You do not bluff Slobodan Milosevic. I find it hard to believe that the British Cabinet seriously intends to garrison Kosovo against a Serbian army. This would imply the enforced dismembering of a sovereign, European state. But why else rattle sabres? Is that all there is to the Government's Kosovo policy: playing tense with foreigners? Meanwhile, back in Armagh...

## Simon Jenkins

we made it up for him," I am told. "We want him to be Speaker in the Scottish parliament, so we have steered him in that direction."

● William Hague has advertised for a new aide — in *The Guardian*. After years attacking the BBC for placing recruitment advertisements in the same woolly organ, the Tories have now followed — describing themselves as an "equal opportunities employer".

### Good lord

LORD BYRON was not mad, bad, and dangerous to know: according to a book to be published shortly,

### Lady's aid

FRESH from showing her "delightful" South African bungalow to *Hello!* magazine, Victoria, Countess Spencer, (right) has been planning her future. This, I hear, could involve her return to Britain to counsel drug and alcohol addicts. The delightful former wife of Earl Spencer has had a few problems herself, but is now looking forward. Lady Parkinson's Action On Addiction is delighted: "We'd be very keen for someone with that sort of profile to come on board. This year our patrons are Lord Gowrie, Patsy Palmer, Lucy Ferry and Caprice." If she does return, everyone at Diary Towers will be delighted...



● BARONESS THATCHER seems to have accepted royal supremacy at last. At the Television and Radio Industries Club yesterday, to present an award in the company of Prince Michael of Kent, she heard the host, Alastair Stewart, who has the key job of presenting a Sunday morning TV programme, say to the Prince: "Your Royal Highness — if I should still call you that." Cue: a pointed and prolonged curtsy from Lady T.

JASPER GERARD

## Alan Coren



■ A loyal subject bows to the inevitable

I was in a cheery Cape Town bar last Saturday evening, sipping a Bloody Mary and attempting to chew my complimentary wedge of biltong, a Boer titbit fashioned from old bicycle saddles, when my eye happened upon the headline of a newspaper on the seat beside me. BOWING OUT, it shrieked, beneath dear God, a snapshot of HM the Queen. Palpitating, I snatched it up, fearing abdication — I had been far from civilisation for two weeks, reading nothing save menus and the odd wine-list — but though the text beneath thankfully proved to be less disastrous than that, it was bad enough. A hemisphere away, major constitutional reforms had, in my absence, been set in train: subjects would no longer be required to bow or curtsy to their sovereign. I did not hesitate. I dropped the biltong (now rehydrated to the size and consistency of a squash ball) into a waste-bin, drained my drink in a single gulp, and caught the next plane back to England.

Not as dramatic a gesture as it sounds, mind, since my flight had just been called and my only option would have been to remain in the airport bar until my snack had swollen so irremovably as to leave the airline no alternative but to bag me up and inform my next-of-kin, but still one I was glad to make: for there is no better opportunity than a 12-hour flight for someone wishing to reflect on the three occasions on which he attempted to bow-low to his monarch, but, each time, signally failed.

My first shot was in 1978, at a party for the marriage of the Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, an event so packed that, to this day, I suspect my own invitation to have resulted merely from a desperate bid to get St James's into the *Guinness Book of Records* under the category Most People Ever Jammed into A Royal Palace. Forwarned of Her Majesty's attendance, I had spent two weeks practising a full repertoire of bowances ranging from slight nod to royal "Kas-moo-kiss" depending on circumstances. On the night, the circumstances were that, when the Queen came to kiss the through, my face was pressed into the neck of the man in front, my own neck being held rigid by the nose behind it. I could have lifted both feet off the ground and she wouldn't have noticed.

She didn't notice my next bow, either, because the dog got it. Invited to a Palace lunch, I was ushered into line, between Derek Nimmo and a tiny African bishop, to await the opening of doors through which the Queen would imminently enter. These duly parted, whereupon, though hardly tenser than a clay-pigeon trap, I instantly bowed, to a corgi that had trotted in first. Worse, when Her Majesty closely followed, I was still so mortified by the gaffe of honouring the mutt over its gracious mistress that I compounded it by failing to bow at all. The Queen of course was very decent about it, she didn't lash out or anything, but I have to tell you that she and I have not broken bread together since.

We did, however, meet a couple of years later, at Royal Ascot. I say meet: she was, in truth, hurrying down the course in her open barouche, granting the loyal punters ranged against the rails the opportunity to acknowledge their liege lady by, not bowing this time, but doffing their serried toppers as she passed, in that became, unbrokenly, a toffs' Mexican wave. Until it reached me: for when, that morning, I had collected my little grey number from Moss Bros, the fact that it was a size too small hadn't seemed important; the opposite, indeed, since it meant that no unwelcome gust would leave me inelegantly pursuing it across Ascot Heath, or, worse, watching a thoroughbred hoof demolish my deposit. What, however, it also meant was that the hat would prove to be undoffable: I was still struggling to unscrew it with both hands as the Queen became a waving dot.

A decade has elapsed since then, but throughout it I bore my chagrin well, confident that some future moment would offer me redemption, she would unveil some plaque, launch some higger, open some cats' home, and there my vertebrae would be, at the forefront of the mob, hinging impossibly, at last. But now it seems this is not to be and on Sunday I cabbled out of Heathrow into an England that, though a spring sun shone, was unquestionably a little greyer than I had left it.

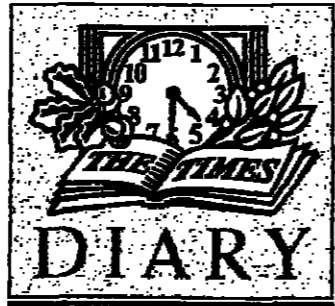
# Garrick gig

MY PRIVATE investigations reveal a surprising development: Mr Mark Knopfler, the former lead strummer with the rock entertainers Dire Straits, has been let into one of London's finest clubs, the Garrick. The celebrated watering hole which blackballed Jeremy Paxman, the *Newsnight* presenter, and which shelters such brothers in Armagnac as Sir Robin Day and Sir David Attenborough, has welcomed Knopfler into its convivial world. Knopfler, the Glasgow-born son of a Hungarian refugee, quit the band in 1991, happy with the £70 million he pocketed from hits such as *Money For Nothing*. Despite his headband and casual attire, Knopfler has a reputation for being a gent among rockers — he has never knowingly hurled a TV out of the window — and his gentle melodies, described as "rock that appeals to your granny", should go down well at club singalongs.



hold." Knopfler's wife, Kity Aldridge, will be pressing her nose to the door. The Garrick is resolutely all-male.

● DAMIEN HIRST has yet another marketing ploy: he has let his two-year-old son, Connor, deface a 7ft spot painting he is working on. The piece will join other "collaborations" between artists (such as Richard Wentworth and Jessica Craig-Martin) and their children, to be shown next month at the Saatchi Gallery. One suggested artistic contribu-



tion by Connor is that he should throw up over the masterpiece, no doubt increasing its value.

### Steel brush-off

LITTLE David Steel has been snubbed by the Liberal Democrats. The former party leader has been dithering over whether to stand for the new Scottish parliament, or the European Parliament. Decisively, Lord Steel of Aikwood submitted his candidature for both. And both were dismissed. His Scottish nomination was returned marked "approved", rather than the "commended" awarded to all favoured candidates. Steel didn't even get to the MEPs shortlist, his nomination rejected for "technical reasons" connected to the tardiness of its submission. "He wouldn't make his mind up so



MODEL 1311











INSIDE SECTION

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TODAY



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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

WEDNESDAY MARCH 11 1998

## Robinson's U-turn offers 'mini' Isas

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

GEOFFREY ROBINSON, the Paymaster General, has bowed to pressure from mutual financial services providers and is proposing a dual system for operating Individual Savings Accounts (Isas) when they are launched next year.

Sources close to the Treasury say that Mr Robinson is now suggesting a "mini" and a "maxi" Isa to appease companies opposed to his original proposal to restrict savers to just one Isa manager a year. However, the Inland Revenue is known to be fighting a fierce rearguard action against the dual system before the Budget on Tuesday, arguing that policing the two systems would be as difficult.

The Government is believed to have already abandoned its proposed £50,000 lifetime limit on Isas.

Supporters of a dual system say that under the one-manager rule originally proposed, savers would lose out if they went to companies providing just one of the three Isa components: cash, insurance and equities. For example, savers who opted for a cash-only Isa from a building society, friendly society or even a supermarket would be barred from expanding into insurance and shares later in the same year. Savers buying Isas from insurers would be similarly restricted.

This problem was made more acute because, under the

proposals, savers will only be able to put £1,000 into either cash or insurance out of a total annual allowance of £5,000.

Rules on "polarisation" in the Financial Services Act prevent finance companies from cross-selling their products unless they agree to a close tie-up. Rather than embark on wholesale reform of financial services regulation, Mr Robinson has agreed that savers will be able to open up to three "mini" Isas a year: £1,000 in cash, £1,000 in insurance and up to £3,000 in shares.

At the same time, savers will be able to get a "maxi" Isa from companies such as banks who can provide all three elements at once. A "maxi" will be more flexible, allowing savers to put up to £5,000 in shares.

The proposal was warmly welcomed by the industry, although many providers expressed concern that two systems would add to the complexity of Isas and make it more expensive. The Government is aiming to attract 6 million people into the savings habit with Isas.

One fund manager, however, endorsed the fears of the Inland Revenue. "What will happen if someone takes out a maxi with £1,200 and then later gets attracted by a mail shot from his building society and takes out a £1,000 mini as well? Both plans will be invalid. It will be a nightmare."

Marion Poole, general secretary of the Association of Friendly Societies, said the reform was "perfectly feasible". However, she added: "I expect the idea will not be eagerly accepted by the big building societies and banks who were hoping to tie their deposit holders in all year and sell other products to them."

The Building Societies Association welcomed the move but expressed reservations about the "maxi" plan. The Association of Unit Truists and Investment Funds said it was a step in the right direction though it noted that there was a danger of confusing savers.

Commentary, page 23

## Peel in hotel comeback



Bull run: Robert Peel has acquired the Peterborough hotel for a rumoured £4 million

By DOMINIC WALSH

ROBERT PEEL, the former boss of Thistle Hotels, is set to make a stock market comeback. On Thursday Peel Hotels will apply for a listing on the Alternative Investment Market and unveil his first hotel acquisition.

Mr Peel, who received a £700,000 payoff after being ousted from Thistle in November, is buying the 103-bedroom Bull Hotel in Peterborough, from Paten Hotels for a rumoured £4 million.

The adviser to the flotation is Peel Hunt, the stockbroker chaired by Mr Peel's brother, Charles, which is taking a 5 per cent stake. Mr Peel himself will own 60 per cent of the company, which is expected to be valued at £125 million. The flotation will raise around £400,000 from institutions.

The board will have two other non-executive directors. John Govett is a director of Schroders, the investment bank, while Keith Benham is a corporate partner of solicitors Linklaters & Paines.

Chief's vision, page 23  
Markets, page 24

## Antitrust inquiry to delay MCI merger

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

ANTITRUST concerns by US regulators are expected to delay the \$37 billion (£22.57 billion) merger of WorldCom and MCI, which would together dominate the Internet cable market.

Any delay in closing the deal, which is expected to win shareholder approval today, would defer a \$7 billion payout to BT for its 20 per cent MCI stake.

The US Justice Department has launched an in-depth investigation of the WorldCom deal, which last year scuppered BT's own plans to acquire MCI. The Justice Department will co-operate with the European Commission, which has also launched an inquiry.

The WorldCom-MCI deal is the biggest merger in corporate history and was negotiated and finalised in just four weeks last October.

Analysts said the antitrust worries could delay completion by several months but are unlikely to derail the deal. They say WorldCom's goal of completing this summer are "unrealistic".

The main concern of the Justice Department is over WorldCom-MCI's capacity for sending and receiving electronic messages over its fibre optic network.

Based on traffic figures, WorldCom-MCI processes around half the total volume. MCI has pointed out that based on revenue figures, the share shrinks to 20 per cent.

A WorldCom spokesman said: "We cannot foresee any delay at the moment. We are still expecting to close this summer."

## Water sell-off left pension fund £419m in the red

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

A REPORT by the National Audit Office today shows that privatisation of the water industry nine years ago has left one of its pension funds £419 million in the red. The fund, which has 33,000 members, will run out of money in 2005. Although members' benefits are guaranteed, taxpayers may have to make good the shortfall.

The Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions is in urgent talks with the Government Actuary's Department and the Environment Agency. The Government may seek to claw back the money from the water companies which have enjoyed bumper profits since privatisation in 1989.

The problems relate to the closed fund that was left after most of the Water Authorities superannuation fund (WASF) was transferred into new pension schemes for each of the privatised companies. At the

time, the WASF did not have sufficient assets to meet all its liabilities.

In his report, Sir John Bourn, head of the NAO, highlights the Conservative Government's decision to leave up to £660 million of deficit with the closed fund. He is also critical of the way the assets were divided between the pension funds.

In an attempt to make the privatised water companies as attractive to the City as possible the Government transferred £65 million more into the active fund than was required to fund its liabilities. The new fund was also given the bulk of the cash and quoted investments leaving the closed fund with illiquid holdings in unquoted companies and property. Sir John also identified "various shortcomings" in the fund's management, which caused it to lose another £160 million.

Commentary, page 23

## RBS defeat looms in Midlands battle

THE Birmingham Midlands board met last night to consider Halifax's £780 million offer amid growing speculation that the Royal Bank of Scotland will have to concede defeat (Richard Miles writes).

RBS, which has offered £630 million for Midlands, was adamant yesterday that it remained on course to complete the purchase. But it is thought that George Mathewson, chief executive of RBS, would yield rather than face a humiliating defeat when Midlands members vote.

RBS's proposed acquisition was meant to be the first of two or three

purchases aimed at expanding its share of the mortgage market and improving its distribution in England and Wales. RBS may now target other building societies, such as the Skipton.

Midshires must put the RBS offer to its 1.2 million members under the terms of the agreement it struck in August. The society is also barred from talking to other suitors. However, Midlands is under no obligation to recommend the RBS deal. Midlands members will pocket an extra £150 if Halifax wins the contest.

Commentary, page 23

## EU rejects criticism over Reed merger

THE European Commission sought to distance itself from the collapse of the merger between Reed Elsevier, the Anglo-Dutch information and publishing group, and Wolters Kluwer of the Netherlands (Raymond Snoddy writes).

Brussels officials denied that the deal had failed because of unreasonable demands from the regulators.

"There was nothing that couldn't have been dealt with," a spokesman for Karel Van Miert, the Competition Commissioner, said yesterday. The Commission had expressed strong objections to parts of the deal, but the companies had already suggested remedies.

However, Brussels later issued a formal statement that seemed to take a harder line. The Commission said that the merged entity would be "several times larger than any other publisher of professional information in the EU" and "could prevent a competitive situation in the supply of legal, fiscal and scientific information in the EU with a significant impact on the terms and prices at which this information is made available to user and consumers".

On Monday, Reed Elsevier said concerns that the EU would insist on a sale of some of the publishing interests involved led to the collapse of the deal.

## London shares break more records

By ALASDAIR MURRAY, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE stock market reached a record closing high for the second consecutive day, boosted by a positive showing in New York and continued bid speculation in the financial services sector.

The FTSE 100 closed up 9.6 points at 5828.5, having also scaled an intra-day record of 5858.1, a rise of 39.2 points.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average had risen 35 points by the London

close as high technology stocks, which had been under pressure, staged a recovery. The Dow maintained its momentum after the London close and was up 53.56, at 8,620.70, by early afternoon.

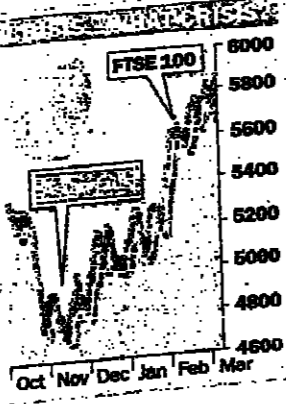
The London market also took heart from a weak British Retail Consortium sales monitor, which helped to allay fears of another rate rise. Volume was modest at 720 million and dealers said that there was lit-

tle real momentum behind the FTSE 100 climb. Analysts believe that as long as interest rates remain on hold and companies are able to bolster the market through share buy-backs, the bottom is unlikely to fall out of the stock market.

Merger and acquisition rumours again pushed the financial services sector higher with Schroders the biggest winner, climbing 95p to £23.95.

A strong maiden perfor-

mance from Norwich Union also helped to push other insurance stocks higher. General Accident rose 4.3 per cent and Commercial Union 5.9 per cent. Norwich, however, slipped slightly as the Halifax offer for Birmingham Midlands ended speculation that the insurance group could be a Halifax bid target.



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# NuTone disposal signals change of focus at Williams

By PAUL DURMAN

WILLIAMS announced the \$242.5 million (£148 million) sale of NuTone yesterday, as it began dismantling its home improvement business.

The withdrawal from home improvement, which contributed £99 million of profits from nearly £600 million of sales last year, will leave Williams focused on fire protection and security. Roger Carr, chief executive, said both these businesses enjoyed organic sales growth of 7-8 per cent last year.

NuTone, based in Cincinnati, makes kitchen and bathroom ventilation products, electronic intercoms and bathroom cabinets. It is to be acquired by Nortek, a US building products group. NuTone made profits of \$26.9 million before interest last year on sales of \$199 million.

Sir Nigel Rudd, chairman of Williams, said NuTone was a no growth business that was

being sold for 15 times earnings. The group's other home improvement businesses, which analysts expect to fetch £650 million or more, include Polyfilla, Cuprinol range of wood preservatives and Hammerite rust prevention. Sir Nigel said Williams was already talking to possible purchasers, but further disposals "might be a month, might be a year. We want good prices. We don't feel under any pressure to sell."

Williams' full-year results showed adjusted pre-tax profits rising from £248.5 million to £285.1 million. This was largely due to last year's acquisition of Chubb, the security business, that made profits of £75.8 million in its first eight months as part of the group. The underlying business increased its profits by 8.3 per cent and sales by 6.5 per cent.

Mr Carr said Williams was

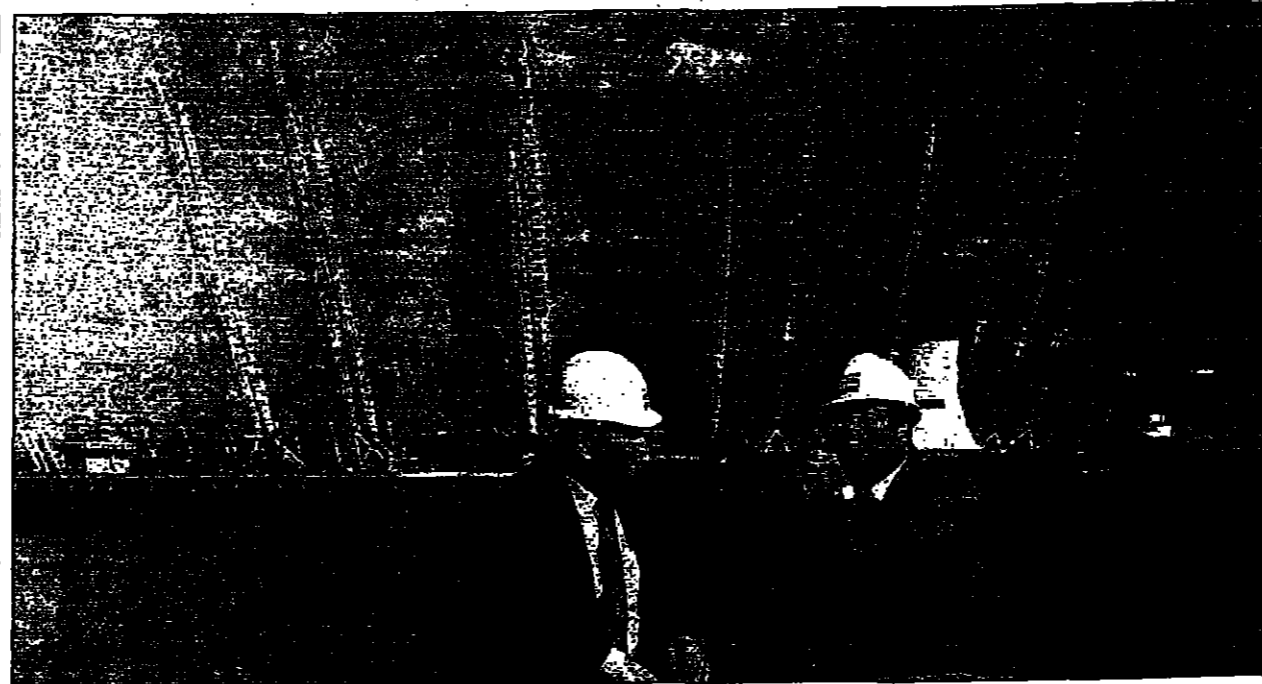
delighted with Chubb. The group spent £35.2 million on rationalising Chubb's plants and integrating Tessa, an American hotel lock company. This led to the loss of more than 1,000 jobs.

Fire protection, centred on Kidde International, increased profits by 12 per cent to £107.3 million. Yale locks contributed to an increase in security products (excluding Chubb) to £56.5 million (£42 million).

Sir Nigel said this year has started well. He said this was "one of the most optimistic forward outlooks that we've had for many years".

A final dividend of 9.75p will increase the total payout by 5 per cent to 15.3p a share. Williams wants to improve its dividend cover, which is only 1.4 times based on adjusted earnings of 22.4p.

Tempus, page 24



Tom Dobson, left, chief executive of Keller, the ground engineering group, and Rob Painting, its finance director, near the Millennium Dome. Keller lifted annual profits 10 per cent, to £13.8 million. The final dividend is 4.35p (3.9p)

## OFT call over newspaper pricing

By RAYMOND SNODDY  
MEDIA EDITOR

JOHN BRIDGEMAN, the Director General of Fair Trading, yesterday asked *The Independent*, *The Daily Telegraph* and *The Guardian* to supply more information in support of their complaint about the pricing policy of *The Times*.

claims of predatory pricing, but the issue continues to cause concern to broadsheet readers who are particularly aggrieved at *The Times*'s price policy. Additional information must be supplied by April 8. From Tuesdays to Fridays, *The Times* has a cover price of 35p, compared with the 45p price of the other broadsheets. On Mondays, the price of *The Times* is 20p and on Saturdays it is 40p. Mr Bridgeman said that he now

wanted information from complainants on relevant developments in the newspaper industry since the last full inquiry, in 1994. In particular, he wanted to hear about their perception of *The Times*'s pricing policy "before deciding whether a new OFT inquiry should be opened". The OFT has looked at the pricing policy of *The Times* in 1993, 1994 and 1996 and each time found that allegations of predatory pricing were not proven.

## Guardian valued at £130m

By CHRIS AYRES

GUARDIAN IT, the provider of emergency back-up computer systems, yesterday surprised the City by announcing a placing price of 235p a share, valuing the company at £130.5 million, against earlier estimates of £100 million.

John Woodland, of SBC Warburg, the underwriter, denied that the company was deliberately overpricing itself to capitalise on high ratings in the information technology sector. He said: "I think some of the other companies are highly rated, but Guardian IT has raised £11 million of new money and has been very well received. This is a perfectly normal valuation benchmark to put on it. The £100 million was a very broad number to give a general indication of size."

Peter MacLean, the company's 49-year-old chief executive, will have shares and options in the company worth nearly £6 million after the float. Richard Raworth, the 50-year-old non-executive chairman, will hold shares and options worth about £3.6 million and several other managers and directors will become millionaires.

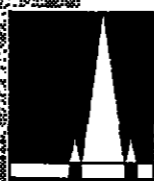
# Norwich Union plc 1997 results

An excellent result in a year of significant change

- Gross premium income
- Operating earnings before tax
- Profits before tax
- Earnings per share
- Dividend per share
- Notional full year dividend per share
- Shareholders' net assets

|                                       | Full year 1997<br>£'million | Full year 1996<br>£'million |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Gross premium income                  | 1,100                       | 1,000                       |
| Operating earnings before tax         | 1,000                       | 900                         |
| Profits before tax                    | 1,000                       | 900                         |
| Earnings per share                    | 7.75p                       | 7.15p                       |
| Dividend per share                    | 7.75p                       | 7.15p                       |
| Notional full year dividend per share | 11.62p                      | 11.62p                      |
| Shareholders' net assets              | 1,100                       | 1,000                       |

- Profits before tax up 10% to £1,000 million
- Gross premium income up 19%, in local currency terms
- Significant improvement in overseas results
- Funds under management increased by 22.4% to £49.2 billion
- Final and only dividend of 7.75p per share



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## CMG ex-secretary in £3.5m share sale

BARBARA WARD, the personnel director of CMG, who joined the computer services company as a secretary in 1965, yesterday sold part of her shareholding for almost £3.5 million. Shares worth the same sum were also sold by Cor Stutterheim, the chairman, and CMG's pension fund transferred a stake worth £1.2 million. The transactions came a day after CMG said that there would inevitably be a long-term slowdown in the information technology sector.

A CMG said: "There is a large proportion of the year in which directors are not allowed to sell. This is a window, and the reason for the sale is probably to get some liquid cash." CMG was founded by the late Doug Gorman, who encouraged employees to take a stake in it. Ms Ward, 61, was one of many staff to benefit greatly from this policy, with the last published company report showing her to have a shareholding worth about £35 million. Since CMG floated in 1995, its shares have risen from £2.95 to £23.47 yesterday.

## Umbro seeks buyer

UMBRO International, the sports goods company, is seeking a buyer for factories in Britain and the United States as part of a shake-up of its global business. The move casts doubt over the future of 140 jobs at Umbro's plants at Biddulph, near Stoke, and Ellesmere Port, Cheshire. The company said its "past phenomenal growth" had led to "stretched" financial resources. It also announced an agreement to extend its loans with two US banks into 1999.

## PSD at the double

PSD, the recently floated recruitment group, raised pre-tax profits from £4.5 million to £9.1 million in the year to December 31 on gross fees up from £19.3 million to £32.3 million. Earnings per share rose from 16.3p to 26.0p out of which a maiden total dividend of 8.4p will be paid. The final is 6p. Francesca Robinson, chief executive, said: "Our record performance in 1997 was achieved solely through organic growth here in the UK and overseas."

## GUS extends deadline

GREAT UNIVERSAL STORES, the mail order company, said yesterday that it had extended its £1.6 billion offer for Argos until March 23, rather than receiving acceptances in respect of just 0.14 per cent of Argos shares by 3pm on Monday. GUS's cash offer, which is being vigorously opposed by Argos, values each Argos share at 570p, compared with yesterday's close of 615p, up 5p. GUS shares fell 5 1/2 p to 79 1/2 p.

## Fund managers slip

THE four biggest pension managers have seen their market share fall by almost 30 per cent over the past five years, as their performance has lagged smaller rivals. Figures published by CAPS, the actuarial consultancy, show the market share of Gartmore, Mercury Asset Management, PDM and Schroders, down to 38 per cent, from 53 per cent in 1992-93. In the past year, the big four managers produced a median return of 14.9 per cent on their segregated pension funds.

## Kingfisher eyes Asia

KINGFISHER, the Woolworths to B&Q retail empire, hopes to expand its two-store B&Q pilot operation in Taiwan into a £600 million Asian business within five years. Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, Kingfisher's chief executive, yesterday opened a new headquarters in Hong Kong and said that he would like to see the Far East accounting for 10 per cent of the group's turnover within five to seven years. Sir Geoffrey said he was not deterred by the depressed consumer markets in Asia.

## Premier Oil on course

PREMIER OIL, the exploration group, is on track to raise production to 60,000 barrels per day by December 31, despite falling oil prices and weak markets in Asia. Production grew 37 per cent in 1997 to 43,900 bpd and net profits rose 7 per cent to £48.5 million with earnings up to 4.72p a share from 4.44p. Total dividend grew 10 per cent to 0.605p per share. Charles Jamieson, chief executive, said Premier would not defer projects as a result of low oil prices.

|              | Bank Buy | Bank Sell |                 | Bank Buy | Bank Sell |
|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------------|----------|-----------|
| Australia \$ | 2.54     | 2.37      | Malta           | 0.88     | 0.87      |
| Austria Sch  | 22.08    | 20.42     | Netherlands Gld | 8.88     | 8.77      |
| Belgium Fr   | 64.88    | 60.00     | New Zealand \$  | 2.95     | 2.71      |
| Canada \$    | 2.440    | 2.282     | Norway Kr       | 318.50   | 328.85    |
| Cyprus Cyp£  | 0.919    | 0.848     | Portugal Esc    | 13.08    | 12.12     |
| Denmark Dk   | 12.71    | 11.12     | Spain Ptas      | 166.38   | 166.38    |
| Finland Mk   | 6.94     | 6.38      | Sweden Kr       | 285.40   | 246.91    |
| France Fr    | 10.51    | 9.73      | Switzerland Fr  | 2.50     | 2.38      |
| Germany Dm   | 3.18     | 2.82      | Taiwan NT\$     | 13.80    | 13.80     |
| Greece Dr    | 300      | 261       | USA \$          | 59.788   | 56.820    |
| Hong Kong \$ | 13.81    | 12.31     |                 | 1.744    | 1.601     |
| Iceland Iskr | 191      | 171       |                 |          |           |
| Ireland Pt   | 1.28     | 1.17      |                 |          |           |
| Israel Shk   | 6.27     | 5.82      |                 |          |           |
| Italy Lit    | 9128     | 2857      |                 |          |           |
| Japan Yen    | 225.85   | 205.25    |                 |          |           |

Notes for small denomination bank notes supplied by Barclays Bank. Conversion rates apply to transfer's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

# A monopoly play by watchdogs



COMMENTARY  
by our City Editor

As the United States competition authorities point accusingly at the potentially monopolistic aspects of the planned merger of WorldCom and MCI, the chaps at British Telecom must be willing the companies to appease the regulators. Were either party to flounce off in a huff rather than bow to the bureaucrats, it would leave BT the poorer.

Luckily for Sir Iain Vallance and Sir Peter Bonfield, there is every likelihood that Bernie Ebbers and Bert Roberts will make the effort necessary to get through the regulatory hoops and complete their \$37 billion deal. They are hardly going to abandon the world's biggest merger because of a few antitrust quibbles. So BT should be able to cash in its MCI shares and head for a £4 billion spree. Its beaten bid for MCI will go down as one of the most glorious failures of corporate history.

WorldCom and MCI, with their swashbuckling bosses, are made for each other in a way that BT and MCI never were. But their very similarities inevitably mean that there are areas of overlap which upset the competition authorities. Causing particular concern is the major involvement of each in providing Internet access but this can be remedied by a few tactical disposals.

In any mega-merger there will almost certainly be an element of doubling up which is sufficient to excite the regulators. Companies

which head for the altar have to be prepared for the boring business of appearing to accommodate the authorities' demands.

Few in the City believe that it was simply exasperation over the demands of Brussels that made Wolters Kluwer decide to walk away from its deal with Reed Elsevier. The companies knew there were areas of overlap that would have to be pruned, and not merely in the area of legal publishing. A statement from the European Commission yesterday pointed to several other sectors where a monopoly position might exist, not least in the market for Dutch dictionaries. Not something that would worry our own OFT, perhaps, but no doubt a matter of deep concern in The Netherlands.

But these are not insurmountable problems. Disagreement over terms for the three-cornered deal seem a more rational explanation for the breakdown of the deal.

Reassuring the antitrust lobbies that they mean no ill may mean that WorldCom and MCI's merger takes longer to complete than they had hoped, but BT should have its money by the end of the year.

Yet the ability of the competition

authorities occasionally to scupper deals, should not be overlooked. Investors in Watmoughs, the printing company on the receiving end of a generous offer from Investcorp, may yet see the OFT leaping in to spoil their fun. The prospect of a full-blooded Monopolies Commission reference would delay, and possibly put paid to the deal. There are some who are choosing to sell in the market rather than risk such disappointment.

## Robinson takes knife to little Isa

Officials at the Inland Revenue have at least been listening to representations about Geoffrey Robinson's well-intentioned but ill-conceived individual savings account. Most public anger has centred on the £50,000 lifetime contribution limit, not least for political reasons. The Taxodger-General,

who has been able to rely on offshore relief, foolishly opined that anyone who had managed to accumulate such a modest sum over a lifetime was "very well off" and certainly not deserving of any tax breaks.

Such a limit would clearly make no sense in an era when people are urged to provide for themselves. That point was illustrated by the plan to do the dirty on vast numbers who already exceed that amount in combined Peps and Tesses built up to ease retirement.

If the ceiling for transfers and contributions is to go, as pre-Budget hints would have it, one impending administrative nightmare will have been forestalled. For the same reason, the idea of collating every transaction centrally to allow a few monthly prizes to be given away has surely been laughed out of the Budget.

Such nonsense arises because the Isa was supposed to "build on" Peps and Tesses, yet be

directed at people who cannot afford to commit long-term savings beyond a pension. Trying to combine a supermarket deposit savings scheme with insurance policies, shares and bonds required complex and costly rules. It also threatened to stifle choice because the saver can only take out one Isa a year.

The scheme would be improved if savers could start accounts with different providers for the different investments covered by an Isa. That would also help some of the new providers, such as supermarkets and even building societies avoid getting into trouble with Financial Services Act rules on giving reasonable advice adapted to individual needs.

Unfortunately, this could add to complexity and therefore costs. A pragmatic compromise might be to have a separate £1,000-a-year cash Isa, a separate £1,000 life assurance Isa and a separate but reduced £3,000-a-year shares

and bonds Isa. Halving the annual contribution limit for the pseudo-Pep element would certainly pay for abolishing the lifetime ceiling. It would be better to be a bit more generous with the reduced tax reliefs now available or, best of all, to forget the whole thing and ask Mr Robinson's offshore advisers to come up with something better.

## Mulcahy does it himself

Kingfisher's decision to go ahead with plans to open an office in Hong Kong is evidence of the company's determination to think long term. Two years ago it ventured gingerly into Taiwan, taking a joint venture partner and introducing the Taiwanese to the joys of the DIY warehouse. It seems that the B&Q recipe has been greeted enthusiastically and now Sir Geoff Mulcahy is prepared to look at expanding his company's involvement in the Far East.

Sir Geoff does not like to be rushed. His reputation for demolishing boxes full of paperclips en route to coming to any decision is not undeserved. But

his refusal to be railroaded by merchant bankers into making hasty bids has saved the company from many potential disasters that were proffered in his direction. Most recently, he has by-passed the opportunity to bid for Argos, although he has run his well-thumbed slide rule over the company many times in the past. Argos seems destined for the GU's stable, and shareholders will be unlikely to see more than a few pence more on the table to make the deal look slightly sweeter.

Kingfisher does not need Argos. As next week's figures from the group will show, the business is trading well despite the bargain-hunting instincts of consumers. In particular, B&Q is having a very good run. This is probably the perfect time for the cash-strapped middle classes of the Far East to learn the joys of DIY.

## Waterfall tax

MALPRACTICES in public sector pension funds are not confined to privatisation. At least the deficit for former water workers can be paid from the waterfall tax. Spending squeezes tempted many other authorities to skimp on contributions. Many funds were at or below solvency before Gordon Brown slashed returns last summer, pushing them deep into the red. Unless he makes up the difference next week, services must shrink to pay for his raid.

# Norwich Union chief committed to independence

By MARIANNE CURPHEY, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

RICHARD HARVEY, chief executive of Norwich Union, said yesterday that he was committed to maintaining the life insurer's independence, in spite of persistent rumours that it was on the brink of being taken over.

Barclays is now the market's favourite suitor for NU, followed by NatWest and Lloyds TSB, in spite of the consensus that all life companies are currently overval-

ued. The City has decided that Halifax's surprise bid for Birmingham Midshires means that it is out of the running.

NU yesterday reported its first full-year results since flotation last June, unveiling a pre-tax pro forma profit of £722 million, a 37 per cent rise from £528 million. Operating earnings before tax were £627 million, a rise of 30 per cent. This was just below ana-

lysts' expectations and the shares fell 5p to 510p. The initial strike price at flotation last June was 290p.

Earnings were 25.2p a share, compared with 18.9p. The dividend is 7.75p and will be paid on June 17. NU has a market capitalisation of £9.8 billion, compared with the £15 billion of the company to be created by the proposed merger of Commercial Union and General Accident.

Mr Harvey confirmed that he would be seeking permission for a share buyback from shareholders.

NU took an £11 million hit from the strength of sterling in the year to December and the company said a similar loss was likely this year.

The bulk of the year's profits came from UK life and pensions business, which contributed £441 million. Overseas businesses contributed £84 million.

NU cautioned that the rate of savings would slow down in the next few years, and added that the focus would be on improving operating efficiency.

## Express Dairies sees £61m operating profit

EXPRESS DAIRIES, which will demerge from Northern Foods this month, has forecast operating profits of not less than £61 million for the financial year ending March 31 (Martin Barrow writes).

Express will pay a dividend of not less than 4.9p in lieu of the final dividend that would have been payable by Northern Foods. Had Ex-

press been independent throughout the year it would have recommended an 8p total dividend.

The company is appointing Sir David Naish, former president of the National Farmers' Union, as non-executive director. Christopher Haskins, chairman of Northern, will also be Express chairman.



Roger Palfard, left, and Jonathan Fellows, finance director of Thorntons

## First half is sweet for Thorntons

By KATHY LIPARI

AGGRESSIVE expansion is adding an extra layer of success to Thorntons, the chocolate shop group, which lifted pre-tax profits by 15 per cent, to £11.5 million, in the half-year to January 10.

Roger Palfard, chief executive, said that the outlook for the full year was also positive with the company already achieving 30 per cent growth on its own-shop sales of the previous year in the eight weeks to March 7 and an 8 per cent rise on a like-for-like sales basis. Thorntons's own stores, which account for 78 per cent of sales, had a 35.4 per cent rise in sales in the first half and a 12 per cent like-for-like rise.

Turnover jumped 22.6 per cent, to £80.3 million. Earnings per share rose to 11.7p, from 9.55p. The interim dividend is 1.8p, up from 1.65p. The shares rose 5p to 292½p.

## Macritonin deal hopes for Cortes

By PAUL DURMAN

CORTES INTERNATIONAL, the drug development company, is hoping over the next few months to announce distribution deals for Macritonin, the osteoporosis treatment that is set to become its first important product.

Michael Flynn, president, said Cortes plans to have a series of deals in Europe rather than working with a single marketing partner.

Macritonin, a tablet form of an existing Novartis drug, has been filed with regulators in seven European countries. If Cortes can demonstrate the essential similarity of Macritonin, the drug may receive its first approvals before the end of this year. Cortes's research and development spending of £7.5 million (£4.6 million) produced a £9.1 million loss (£4.3 million loss) for the six months to December 31.

## Pubs group predicts an own goal

JD Wetherspoon, the pub operator, is bracing itself for a slump in sales during the World Cup this summer as thirsty football fans flock to neighbouring pubs with television sets.

The absence of TVs and music is normally one of Wetherspoon's biggest selling points. However, Tim Martin, chairman, admitted yesterday that the rejuvenation of the England team in recent years meant the five-week tournament in France would be required viewing, even for non-football fans.

The group reported a 20 per cent rise in profits before tax and property disposals, to £9.7 million, in the six months to February 1, from turnover 37 per cent ahead, at £89 million. Earnings per share rose to 4.8p (4.1p) and the interim dividend, which has a scrip alternative, is 0.75p (0.68p). *Tempus*, page 24

## SMG ads plan

Scottish Media Group is to launch a national television advertising service for Scotland in September. With Scottish Television and Grampian, SMG can cover virtually all of Scotland. SMG enjoyed a 46 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £41 million before exceptional items in 1997. Operating profit rose 65 per cent to £42.3 million. Earnings rose 50 per cent to 46.4p a share. The dividend is up 20 per cent to 22.5p, after a final 15.9p. The shares rose 15p to 695p.

## Provend delivers

Provend Group, the vending services and wholesale distribution company that floated in November 1996, reported underlying pre-tax profits of £1.27 million for the six months to December 28, up from £860,000 in the first half of the previous year. Earnings were 5.5p a share, against 7.8p adjusted for exceptional items. The maiden interim dividend is 1.25p.

## C&WC Net gain

Cable & Wireless Communications yesterday placed what it described as the world's first order for Internet-based software for its digital cable system. The order was for the DTV Navigator platform from the Oracle and Netscape affiliate, Network Computer.



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STOCK MARKET

CLARE STEWART

Shares run out of steam after climbing to record

LONDON shares returned to record-breaking form yesterday helped by a stronger lead from Wall Street.



Jim Clarke, left, JD Wetherspoon's new finance director, Jim Martin and John Huisson saw the shares rise 15p

After a quiet morning session with shares lacking direction, the FTSE 100 took heart from a firm opening by the Dow Jones industrial average and overtook its previous all-time trading high to peak at 5,885.1.

But the drive higher lacked conviction and the index of leading shares drifted lower towards the close to end at 5,828.5, up 9.6 points, with a moderate volume of just over 700 million shares traded.

Ahead of today's key meeting of the FTSE International committee, attention was focused on those companies expected to move in or out of the FTSE 100 index.

Promotion hopeful Missy ended unchanged at £26.52, while Compass, also a hopeful, jumped 8p to 93p.

Kingfisher was lifted by comments from Société Générale, who have set a target price of £11. Shares in the Woodwards to B&Q group jumped to a high of £10.42 before closing up 3p at £10.30.

Other retailers were less in demand on further consideration of the British Retail Consortium's report on slower high street sales in February.

Further consideration of the benefits arising from the forthcoming merger between General Accident and 48p to 137p, while Commercial Union jumped 4p to 100p.

Independent Insurance led the way for FTSE 250 shares for much of the day, and closed up 14p or 11 per cent at £13.95, a record.

This came in response to better than expected full-year figures and news of the five-for-two share split. Michael Bright, independent chief executive, bought 17,500 shares at £13.60.

BPP put on a burst of speed to notch up the highest rise among FTSE 250 shares. The group rose 57p to 40p. News of plans by Williams, the industrial group, to dispose of its US home products business with approval and the shares moved above their previous peak to 410p, a rise of 22p.

Reckitt & Colman, the household products group, was snapped up ahead of year-end results tomorrow. The shares were chased 32p higher to £10.91.

Drugs groups were once again boosted by merger speculation with Zeneca. Fising 88p to 743p, SmithKline Beecham moved up 4p to 811p, while Glaxo Wellcome put on 8p to 168p. Cortes responded to first-half news

with a rise of 1 1/2p to 171 1/2p, while Powerjet jumped 58p to 471 1/2p.

Oil shares were dull on the weaker crude price but recovered some ground in later trading. Premier Oil jumped 2 1/2p to 41 1/2p. Enterprise Oil fell 4p to 50p and BP firmed to close up 1 1/2p at 438 1/2p.

Shell, the most heavily traded group among the top 100 companies, ended 3p lower at 425 1/2p.

Among financials Halifax put on 17p to 942p. Royal Bank of Scotland, which yesterday said it planned to continue with its acquisition for Birmingham Midlands despite the higher offer from Halifax, rose 5p to 940p.

Merchant bank Schroders in thin trade saw its ordinary shares pushed 45p higher to £23.45 ahead of results today.

Reed International fell a further 12p to 608p, after the end to its merger plans with Wolters Kluwer. Pearson succumbed to profit making and ended 12p off at 980p.

Among television stocks, Scottish Media put on 15p to 695p after announcing a pre-exceptional profits rise of 46 per cent. Carlton TV added 17 1/2p to 454 1/2p.

Thorntons, the chocolates retailer, climbed to a high after it lifted first-half profits by 15.5 per cent. The shares ended at 292 1/2p, up 5p. Good interim profits at JD Wetherspoon, the pubs operator whose chairman is Tim Martin and managing director John Huisson, helped to lift the shares 15p to 301 1/2p.

Rising hopes of promotion helped Sunderland to race ahead 17 1/2p to 27 1/2p.

Carr's Milling tumbled 42 1/2p to 182 1/2p after a profit warning. The food group blamed the strength of sterling, lower milk prices and the effect of BSE.

Dealers reported a quiet day of trading with limited buying interest in futures. The June series of the long gilt closed up 1 1/2p at £107. On a moderate volume of 62,000 contracts completed, Treasury 7 per cent 2002 ended down £1 1/2 at £102.22, while Treasury 8 per cent 2001 moved up £ 1/2 to £125 1/2.

NEW YORK: Shares on Wall Street made strong advances in early trading led by a rebound in technology issues after a string of earnings warnings had pulled the sector lower. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 39.36 points to 8,606.50.

Other commodities were mixed. Gold rose 1.20 to 368.15, silver 1.20 to 5.82, and platinum 1.20 to 828.50.

Oil prices were mixed. Brent rose 1.20 to 18.20, WTI rose 1.20 to 14.30, and Naphtha rose 1.20 to 1.37.

Grain prices were mixed. Wheat rose 1.20 to 1.10, corn rose 1.20 to 1.10, and soybeans rose 1.20 to 1.10.

Metals prices were mixed. Copper rose 1.20 to 1.10, zinc rose 1.20 to 1.10, and nickel rose 1.20 to 1.10.

Other metals prices were mixed. Lead rose 1.20 to 1.10, tin rose 1.20 to 1.10, and aluminium rose 1.20 to 1.10.

Energy prices were mixed. Natural gas rose 1.20 to 1.10, and coal rose 1.20 to 1.10.

Other energy prices were mixed. Oil rose 1.20 to 1.10, and uranium rose 1.20 to 1.10.

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MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday): Dow Jones 8606.50 (+39.36), S&P Composite 1058.32 (+6.01)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16982.82 (+10.29), Hang Seng 10988.57 (+8.52)

Amsterdam: AEX index 1093.72 (+5.34)

Sydney: AO 2662.29 (+12.2)

Frankfurt: DAX 4834.43 (+53.00)

Singapore: Straits 1546.05 (+7.39)

Brussels: General 16607.00 (+66.07)

Paris: CAC 40 3521.51 (+4.30)

Zurich: SFA Gen 1458.00 (+18.2)

London: FTSE 100 5828.5 (+9.6), FTSE 250 5286.8 (+28.9), FTSE 350 2788.7 (+4.8)

FTSE 100 Index (rebased) 5828.5 (+9.6), FTSE 250 Index (rebased) 5286.8 (+28.9), FTSE 350 Index (rebased) 2788.7 (+4.8)

RECENT ISSUES: Athlone Extrusions 85p, BGR 240, Bases B 94, Diageo B 515p, Eurotunnel 01 03 Wts 7p, Monsoon 193, Quadrant Hithers 125p, 3 Sanctuary Warrants 4p

RIGHTS ISSUES: Wates City n/p (94) 96 - 15

MAJOR CHANGES: RISES: Gold Fields Prop 135p (+12p), Enbridge 497p (+30p), Hall Eng 214p (+13p), Odebrecht Int 255p (+17p), Williams 419p (+22p), Tibury Dought 248p (+18p), Cookson 241p (+12p), Wetherspoon JD 301p (+15p), GRE 458p (+32p), Scot & New 933p (+28p), Al Nippon Air 344p (+14p), REK 277p (+11p), Rolls & Nolan 505p (+19p), Royal & Sun AI 808p (+27p), Courtauld 374p (+11p), Next 788p (+21p), Cadbury-Schw 821p (+21p)

FALLS: Deans Op 480p (-22p), Scotia 295p (-11p), Abnoba & Leic 604p (-28p), BOC 531p (-28p), Tesco 531p (-12p), Jarvis 579p (-12p), Legal & Gen 683p (-14p), Reed Int 808p (-12p), Reuters 649p (-11p), Goldsmiths Gp 227p (-10p), Cragg & G 110p (-10p), Carrs Milling 182p (-42p), BTR 193p (-18p), Rolls-Royce 283p (-10p), Storehouse 245p (-9p), Ranger 384p (-13p), Shield Diag 652p (-22p)

Closing Prices Page 27

TEMPUS

Patience rewarded

WHEN Roberto Quarta took the helm at BBA, he cut the dividend by more than a third. It has taken four years, but investors who have shown patience in the restructured group have finally seen the dividend reach a new high. And whereas BBA had to borrow money to pay the 7.5p dividend it produced in 1993, this year's 8p payout is covered three times by earnings.

Mr Quarta has focused BBA on a combination of aircraft parts and services, and brake pads, nappy liners and other "non-woven" materials. Disposals since 1993 have raised £550 million, with £500 million going towards acquisitions in these core areas.

A further £200 million of capital expenditure has boosted margins. The shares have duly rounced the FTSE engineering index over the past four years, although they

dropped 4 1/2p to 422p yesterday. While tipping their hats to the strength of the management team and their record since 1993, some observers suspect efficiency gains are reaching a ceiling since the margin on continuing operations rose just 0.1 per cent in 1997 to 13.7 per cent. They reckon the group needs a big deal to catapult it further forward - they were granted an intoxicating sniff of Roberto Quarta's ambition when he planned a bid for Lucas.

They are wrong. Capital expenditure rose 52 per cent to £69 million last year, suggesting there are more efficiencies to come. There are plenty of bolt-on buys in aircraft refuelling and servicing - airports are often dominated by one small player. Geographical expansion offers another avenue for growth. Buy for the long term on a prospective p/e of about 16.5.

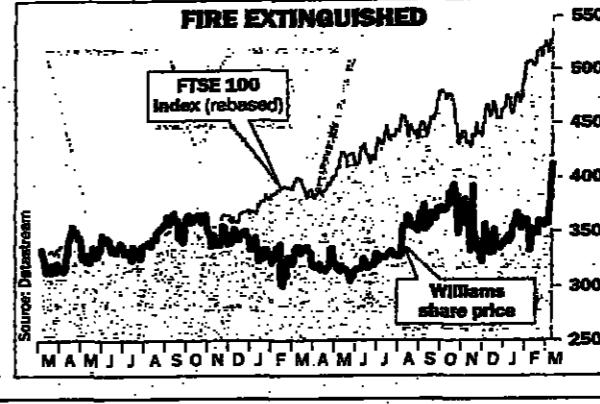
Investors can have few complaints with the latest

results. The acquisition of Chubb is going well, and Williams is confident of delivering the promised £40 million of performance improvement benefits. As importantly, Chubb has given the security side genuinely global strength.

Both fire protection and security are increasingly developing sales by providing

electronic systems to industrial customers. Last year both sides achieved organic sales growth of 7-8 per cent, more than respectable for a company of Williams size.

The group is heading for profits of £340 million this year. That puts the shares on a multiple of 16.4 times earnings - fair but not compelling value.



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IT IS a busy week for housebuilders, and the current run of results is refocusing attention on the sector. On Monday, Persimmon reported better than expected figures and yesterday it was Redrow's moment in the spotlight as it revealed profits of £23.2 million up from £16.4 million.

Still to come are Wilson Bowden today where pre-tax profits are expected to jump to £62 million while Kier Group reports on Thursday.

Shares in the construction sector, which have

been lagging behind the market since last summer, have made noticeable ground but still have a way to go on current valuations.

The recovery in the housing market has driven shares ahead but analysts say the sector still looks unattractive. Despite the run of encouraging results, there remains some caution over long-term growth prospects. Key issues include the possibility of interest rate rises and the government response to the vexed question of brownfield versus greenfield development.

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LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table with columns: Instrument, Period, Open, High, Low, Settle, Vol. Includes Long Gilt, German Govt Bond (Bund), Italian Govt Bond (BTP), Japanese Govt Bond (JGB), etc.

MONEY RATES (%)

Table with columns: Instrument, Rate. Includes Base Rates, Treasury Bills, Prime Bank Bills, etc.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Table with columns: Currency, Term, Rate. Includes Dollar, Swiss Franc, etc.

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Table with columns: Instrument, Price. Includes Bullion Open, Close, High, Low, etc.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Table with columns: Instrument, Rate. Includes Mkt Rates for March 10, etc.

DOLLAR RATES

Table with columns: Country, Rate. Includes Australia, Canada, Denmark, etc.

OTHER STERLING

Table with columns: Instrument, Rate. Includes Argentina peso, Bahraini dollar, etc.

FTSE 100 LISTINGS

Table with columns: Company Name, Price, Change. Includes ASYMPAC, ASDA, etc.

OTHER LISTINGS

Table with columns: Company Name, Price, Change. Includes A&P, A&P, etc.





# Starship Enterprise needs warp drive

March 17 is Gordon Brown's chance to boldly go where no Chancellor has gone before. The Budget is his Starship Enterprise, his vehicle for putting the head-to-work ethic at the centre of the Government's economic strategy.

Expectations for this first full Labour Budget are so high that there is a real danger of anti-climax. Can Mr Brown be bold enough to avoid disappointment, to sweep away the disincentives built into the tax and benefit system, create the right incentives for lone mothers to leave their children and earn a living, to put flesh on his rhetoric about a political "third way" between old Labour's nanny state and Conservative laissez faire?

The Chancellor seems to combine genuine radical intent and hypersensitive caution and it would be a surprise if both were not on display

next week. Mr Brown's vision of a system that gives people the skills, opportunity and incentives to engage or re-engage in the world of work is bold. The word from campaigners for more help with childcare provision, for example, is that the Chancellor is going to be surprisingly free with his cash. Colette Kelleher, director of the Daycare Trust, said that the signs are that help is going to be both generous and well-targeted.

But, within the straitjacket of caution on the public finances that has been Mr Brown's badge of honour in the City, the truly radical appears to have been ruled out. Change will be incremental, evolution rather than revolution, redesigning, not rebuilding the system.

No one should take away from Mr Brown and Tony Blair, of course, the breadth of vision for reforming not just

the welfare state but society. A holistic approach to tackling benefit and poverty traps was not attempted in anything like a serious way by the Tories. Nor did they bother to mobilise different sections of the community to motivate change. Perhaps there wasn't even any understanding of the problem.

Nevertheless, Messrs Brown and Blair may, in the end, kick themselves for not putting their huge parliamentary majority to bolder use. There are many examples of current thinking that is much more radical than the Government's. Childcare is one. Less than 30,000 families get help with childcare costs through the benefits system currently. If Mr Brown throws a few hundred million at the prob-

lem, more families will be helped. But we will still lag far behind the childcare infrastructures available in, for example, continental Europe.

In 1993, Hugh Davies, of Birkbeck College, and Heather Joshi, of the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, argued that a low-cost (largely using childminders) national childcare system, available to lone and married mothers, would net the Treasury revenue, even in the start-up years. High-cost childcare, based on day nurseries, could never quite pay for itself but the researchers estimate that it would cost only about £1,000 over the entire lifetime of the mother up to the age of 60.

Given this Government's laudable focus on the long-

term damage of child poverty, this seems to be a very good investment. Thinking of this kind does not, however, square with this Government's attitude towards public spending. Its borrowing of Conservative ideology is apparently too deep-rooted to allow the use of public money for such a national programme, even if the benefits to society are compelling. The same arguments apply to the Channel Tunnel rail link. The economic benefits of good transport infrastructure are well-known. Why can't John Prescott bite the bullet?

There are other areas where this Government could be bolder. It could combine the tax and national insurance systems, rather than tweaking them, but seems unlikely to go for the big bang option. It could introduce an element of compulsion into saving for second pensions, as Frank

Field has long argued, but seems to have balked at this. In the case of the New Deal, the Government rejected the idea of a compulsory training levy, hoping instead that business would be enthused enough to take on youngsters voluntarily.

Gordon Brown's third way is a subtle beast. It rejects spending public money, conventional-style, on infrastructure whether that be rail links or nurseries. It rejects compulsion to enforce change, relying instead on small-scale adjustments to incentives, the motivation of individuals and goodwill from business.

Perhaps this will be enough and perhaps, in the individualistic society that Britain has become, it is the right approach. Perhaps, if the results don't come through, even Mr Brown will back that final frontier and start spending his war chest of public money.

# Status quo preferred to constant tinkering

Carl Mortished urges Gordon Brown to leave business alone

Does British business want another Budget? Most certainly not. The annual review of government spending and taxation is a predictable nuisance. It throws into doubt investment projects agreed years previously and upsets cashflow forecasts. Tax laws are the most powerful tools available to the Government but they have all the subtlety of using a JCB to dig up your garden.

For months an army of civil servants have been rewriting the rulebook on who should pay how much of which tax. From Tuesday next week a much larger army (generally better-paid private-sector servants will seek to find ways of escaping the new rules. In other words, vast human and intellectual resources that might be applied to creating new wealth are being applied to make wealth disappear.

In the case of the Chancellor, that means more money down the mighty maw of the Exchequer. After all, the main object of taxation is simply to pay the bills. A country with an ageing population and an economy growing at 2 to 3 per cent cannot afford anything more radical than paying the rent and the wages of nurses.

That would suggest a simple tax system but instead we find ourselves ruled by men and women with vision. This Government has divided the world into sheep and goats. Car ownership is bad, capital investment is good, dividends are bad, rail transport is good.

So next week's Budget will be a rambling Budget. That in itself will be worrying to businesses who tend to prefer the status quo, even if it is onerous, to constant tinkering. Anticipating yet another review of North Sea taxation, one chief executive of a large oil company remarked that British democracy represented a greater political risk to his operations than Indonesian dictatorship. In the UK, the tax regime changes almost every year, while Indonesia's rules apparently have not changed for a decade.

Does business have a view of the Budget? A true entrepreneur would shy away from a collective position on anything, preferring to find the loophole, rather than wage war on the system.

However, the Confederation of British Industry is one exponent of corporate philosophy and seems to be sympathetic to Labour's mindset.

The CBI seems to be prepared to go along with Labour's agenda of big investment to make our businesses bigger. It liked the increase in capital allowances and wants the Chancellor to extend allowances further to give managers more plant to play with. As for the tricky question of capital gains tax, the CBI's policy could have been written by the Wilson Government: "The key purpose of any reform of CGT should be to encourage build-up of wealth in business assets."

Why? The purpose of all human enterprise — apart from passing the time — is wealth creation. Most of us would like to see the wealth in people's pockets. But the CBI seems to want to fill factories with machines. Given the current value of sterling and our export performance, this would appear to be a recipe for financial disaster. After years of pulling apart unwieldy business empires, is there any point in a policy aimed at recreating Korean chaebols in Britain?

Businesses do not have a view of the Budget but their managers and shareholders do and their interests tend to diverge. Broadly speaking, businesses would rather that the consumer bore the brunt of government revenue-raising measures than corporate taxes.

But the corporate veil hides a confusion of special interests. If the greed of shareholders demands that wealth be paid out in more dividends, the venality of managers expresses itself by expanding the organisation, building up staff costs and, hopefully, the cost to the company of their own efforts.

Gordon Brown's Budget will not attempt to resolve this problem but as he braces himself for a moral crusade on subsidies to the middle class — company cars and mortgage tax relief — he would do well to leave business alone. With no outlet for middle-class greed, there would be no wealth to tax.

# Middle Britain set for squeeze as Chancellor targets low paid

Anne Ashworth and Caroline Merrell assess the tax possibilities

Those who view the Budget as a drama, rather than a political event will be listening carefully next Tuesday to Gordon Brown's choice of words, as he outlines the details of the individual savings account, his cherished scheme to inculcate the low paid with the habit of thrift.

It seems that Mr Brown could bow to pressure from No 10 and the savings industry to change the Isa proposals, widely seen as an attack on prudent investors. Mr Brown must explain that amendments will be made to his precious proposals, while giving no evidence of pique. The indications are that the £50,000 limit on Isa investments could be abolished, so sparing those with substantial amounts stashed in Peps and Tesses, but depriving Mr Brown of a useful saving of some £800 million a year.

In yet another painful compromise, there may also be different types of Isa for different investors, with mini cash-only Isas available at supermarkets and smaller building societies and maxi Isas containing all the permitted investments.

But Middle Britain can expect few other dispensations: Mr Brown's second Budget is likely only to benefit the less fortunate and he will not be constrained by his pledge to leave the 23 per cent basic and 40 per cent higher rates of tax unchanged. For example, he may get his revenge on the middle class homeowner by getting rid of mortgage interest relief which would raise £1.8 billion for the Exchequer.

Accountants are preparing for changes to most areas of personal taxation, with the effects being felt in every type



Beer drinkers, company car users and middle-income professionals are all likely to find the Chancellor in unforgiving mood as he seeks to help workers on low incomes and those on benefits to get into employment

of household: from the high-rise home of the family on the breadline to the Knightsbridge penthouse of the expatriate for whom Britain is the best of tax havens, and also handy for Harrods. Reforms of National Insurance are also expected, based on the review of benefits and taxation carried out by Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays.

Provisions designed to cut the £100 billion annual social security budget will be the centrepiece of Mr Brown's speech. The Chancellor, a man who believes, like Noel Coward, that "work is more fun than fun" is determined to encourage those living on benefits to take up gainful employment. A range of provisions that may not be fully implemented until April 1999 will aim to make the workplace a better financial proposition than benefit dependency. They include a 10 per cent

starting rate of tax and American-style tax credits for working families with children that will replace the present family credit benefit, paid out to those who earn under £7,150 per week. Family credit is currently reduced by 70 per cent each £1 earned over the threshold. Compensation for the cost of childcare will be included in the working family tax credit.

To ensure the 10 per cent rate of tax does not unduly benefit the highly paid, Mr Brown must execute a sleight of hand. Accountants think he will lower the threshold at which higher rate tax becomes payable (currently £26,000) so offsetting any gains from the 10 per cent rate which would otherwise bring most advantage to the better off.

John Whiting, a tax partner at Price Waterhouse, says the accountants believe the 10 per cent rate may apply to the first £1,000 of taxable income, and

that the Chancellor may, at the same time, abolish the current 20 per cent lower rate of tax. This would leave an employee on a wage of £6,000 some £72 per year better off.

Other measures will aim to make employing the low paid more attractive, making it cheaper for bosses to take on staff. The Government could raise employers' National Insurance contributions to 12 per cent from the current 10 per cent, for those earning over £62 per week. The 2 per cent NI band on the first £62 of wages for those earning over £62 would be abolished.

Mr Brown, a son of the manse, with a strong Calvinist streak, has pledged to come down hard on tax avoidance. Last week, in a surprise move, the Treasury ended an off-shore trust loophole used by the wealthy. A further 200 anti-avoidance measures could be included. This has

caused some head scratching among accountants who have not been able to count 200 separate tax avoidance ruses. But it is thought that instead of individually listing each heinous scheme the Chancellor may choose to introduce a general anti-avoidance regime (GAR) that could be used to target any arrangement deemed unacceptable.

The campaign against avoidance may also extend to the wealthy overseas set who have resident non-domicile status in Britain. While residing in Belgravia's best squares, they have established their true homeland lies elsewhere. Thus they enjoy a number of privileges, including the right to import capital tax-free.

The Government's wish to appear environmentally responsible and careful of the nation's health will influence

# Job mobility

STRANGE movements at the top of Cellnet, whose performance has badly lagged behind rival swiftness such as Orange. Peter Erskine, a heavy hitter who used to run one of the most important businesses to BT, than it might once have been with MCI, has been parachuted in to become Cellnet's managing director. The person who did this job, one Ray Smith, is moved sideways to a post so obscure that BT could not even recall it when I first asked them about the move.



"We don't stock it — have you tried our Hong Kong branch?"

(Chief operating officer, it says here). Erskine will report direct to Bill Cockburn, BT's managing director.

BT blathered on about the importance of mobile communications, etc. But you do not put in someone of Erskine's importance to run a business of which you own only three fifths unless you expect changes. And this is the second, big shake-up at Cellnet in recent years, the last coming after the ghastly mess the company made of a computerised billing system. BT, which in the palmy days of the mobile phone business was happy to let Cellnet jog along unregarded, is looking for better performance, now there is proper competition in the field. Perhaps in anticipation of a lifting of the Whitehall block that requires Securicor, which has no interest in mobile phones, to retain a 40 per cent stake in the business.

• "A FOR ABSURDITY", an alphabetical dissertation on Europe and monetary union, arrives. I wonder which side of the great debate this pamphlet will take. Hmm. "B for Bandwagon. C for Centralisation". I detect a trend. "F for Fascism". "H for Hijack. Illegal. Jiggery-Pokery. Knavish. Lies. Yes, I think I have it. And "X for Xenophobia".



**Bright spark**

FIGURES from Independent Insurance yesterday were accompanied by a slick 11-minute marketing video. A Team Performance featured a dozen or so managers speaking, the aim, according to Michael Bright, the high profile chief executive, being to counter the widely held view in the City that the underwriter is a one-man band and would fall apart should Mr Bright, 53, move on. Analysts, who learnt nothing they did not already know, were baffled why anyone should go to such expense. Mere corporate vanity? Then some reflected that Bright, while in tip-top health,

is something of a bon viveur and a stranger to the squash court or the running machine. It seems in these puritanical times this could affect the share price.

**Worth the wait**

WHEN Guardian IT decided to float, SBC Warburg, the house broker, saw a value of £100 million. Now the company is worth more than £130 million, says Warburg, claiming the earlier figure was "broad". This from the broker still wincing from the disaster of Ionica, another high-tech business and one where the valuation turned out to be very broad indeed.

• ON THE basis that no one is quite that stupid, I can only assume CSFB is keen to avoid hard questioning in the wake of the blood-stained merger with BZW. A colleague has just been asked to a briefing on their year-end results at 2.45 pm on March 17 — 15 minutes before the Chancellor stands up to deliver his Budget. This, along with releasing particularly awful figures late on Christmas Eve, is one of the oldest tricks in the book. I am sure CSFB can look forward to appropriately detailed coverage.

**Class barrier**

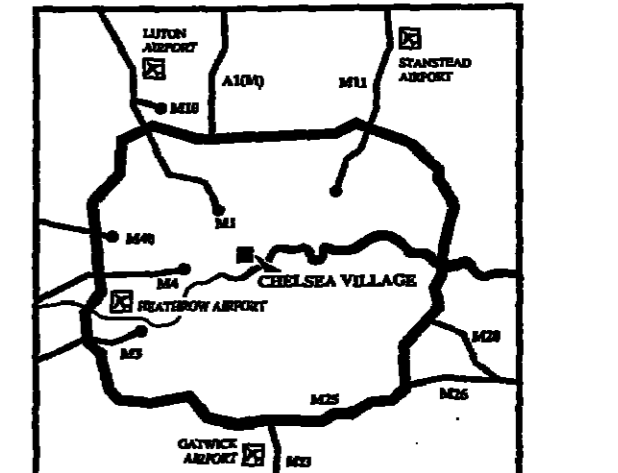
THE DUKE of Westminster, despite his multimillionaire status, has an odd quirk. He insists on driving himself everywhere. So he arrived yesterday to open the new Liverpool head office of Rathbones, the investment manager that merged last year with Nielson Cobbold, at the wheel of his green Jaguar. To be told by the car park attendant: "You can't park there — we're expecting some Duke to arrive any moment."

So goes the story. I wonder, given the rivalry between Liverpool and Chester, the Duke's home town, whether the famed Liverpoolian wit might somehow have been involved in the exchange.

MARTIN WALLER



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# BBA lifts profits and says Ajax is for sale

BY ADAM JONES

ROBERTO QUARTA, chief executive of BBA, yesterday disclosed that its Ajax Magnethermic arm is up for sale. Announcing a 9 per cent rise in profits in 1997, Mr. Quarta said that Ajax, which had 1997 sales of about £70 million, will be the last big disposal in the engineering group's restructuring programme.

Mr. Quarta said: "It will be sold, but we are in no rush." The decision to sell follows the disposal of Haefely Trench, a maker of high-voltage electrical equipment, for £164 million last year. Holts, a small rubber company in California, is also to be sold.

## Stakis sells hotel to US partner

BY DOMINIC WALSH

STAKIS, the hotel and gaming group, is to sell St Ermin's Hotel in Westminster for £47.75 million while continuing to operate the 290-room property under a 30-year management contract.

David Michels, chief executive, said the sale to Strategic Hotel Capital Incorporated (SHCI), a real estate company based in Chicago, was designed as a first step in an alliance that could see Stakis gain several further contracts. The proceeds from the sale of the London hotel will be invested in new leisure clubs.

The aim is that SHCI will buy four-star hotels with at least 200 rooms in UK cities, which Stakis would then operate in return for a management fee. Mr. Michels said at least two hotels were in the pipeline, including one in London.

H+S is based at Portsmouth and made operating profits of £3.9 million on sales of £32 million in 1997. It is being bought from Vector Industries, a venture capital group. In a related deal, Pratt & Whitney Canada has authorised BBA's Dallas Airmotive subsidiary to do overhauls on its PW100 range of engines.

BBA reported 1997 profits of £141.1 million, before tax and exceptional items, a 9 per cent rise on 1996. This would have been a 17 per cent rise if currency levels had been constant. BBA said turnover rose by 8 per cent, to £1.2 billion. Margins on continuing operations rose from 13.6 per cent to 13.7 per cent.

The group said that it sees Asia as a growth opportunity, rather than as a vulnerability, because less than 3 per cent of 1997 sales were into the region, and the group is keen on geographic expansion.

Despite BBA's one-time plan to buy Lucas, the bigger automotive group, acquisitions are more likely to be bolt-ons. However, Mr. Quarta said that larger deals would be considered if opportunities arose. BBA can raise £400 million without going to shareholders for more capital.

A 5.6p payout, to be paid on May 22 as a foreign income dividend, makes 8p (7p).

Tempus, page 26



Michael Bright, left, and Garth Ramsay, chairman of Independent Insurance, insurers to the London Fire Brigade

## Independent Insurance buoyant

BY MARIANNE CURPHY

SHARES in Independent Insurance rose 11 per cent yesterday after the specialist underwriter unveiled a 38 per cent increase in operating profit and said it was seeking commercial insurance acquisitions in France, Spain and the UK.

Michael Bright, chief executive, said the company was "working very hard" on securing a deal, but attempts in the past six months with a couple of businesses in France had fallen through. The company reported a pre-tax operating profit of £58 million (£42 million) on gross written premium of £552 million (£439 million).

The total dividend for 1997 was 16.5p (13.25p). Analysts had been expecting profits of between £53 million and £57 million. The shares rose 140p to £13.95. The company also announced a five-for-two share split, and Mr. Bright, one of the founders of the company a decade ago, bought 17,500 shares in the interim stage, he bought 101,000 shares at 94.5p.

Philip Condon, managing director, bought 3,300 shares at £13.60. Mr. Bright now owns almost 6 per cent, while Mr. Condon holds 1 per cent of shares. Mr. Bright said the results benefited from the company's strategy to move customers to longer-than-usual policies of up to five years in commercial insurance business. Independent has almost completely withdrawn from personal lines insurance.

Tempus, page 24

## Oxford Asymmetry to float at £120m

BY PAUL DURMAN

OXFORD Asymmetry International, which makes chemicals used in drug development, is to float with a value of £120 million, 20 per cent more than the guide price suggested by Cazenove, its broker, during the marketing period.

The flotation will create a fortune of almost £11 million for Stephen Davies, Professor of Chemistry at Oxford University. Professor Davies, still a director, has sold £1.1 million of shares but retains an 8.2 per

cent stake. The university has a 6.2 per cent holding worth £7.4 million after selling £820,000 of shares.

Nick Cross, deputy chairman, has raised £2.8 million and Ian Laing, his business partner, £2.6 million, but each still owns stakes worth more than £20 million. Edwin Moses, chief executive, has sold £380,000 worth but holds £1.3 million. Cazenove priced the shares at 390p. Dealings are expected next Tuesday.

## Savings for Kalon exceed forecasts

BY MARTIN BARROW

KALON GROUP, Europe's second-largest decorative paints manufacturer, has achieved annualised cost savings of £16.5 million from the audacious 1995 merger with Euridex, of France, against budgeted savings of £10 million.

The UK company said it now expected overall savings of around £22.4 million a year to arise from the merger. This will help to offset the adverse impact of the economic prob-

lems in France, now Kalon's largest market, where prices are falling as retailers and manufacturers strive to maintain volumes.

Kalon was reporting a 30.2 per cent rise in underlying pre-tax profits to £45.2 million in 1997. Earnings were up 21.3 per cent, excluding exceptional items.

The total dividend rises 19.2 per cent to 6.2p a share, with a 4.2p final. The shares rose 2p to 177½p yesterday.

## William Baird soars 63%

BY KATHY LIPARI

THE restructuring efforts of William Baird, the clothing manufacturer, appear to have paid off.

The group's shares jumped from 234p to 247½p after it reported that last year's pre-tax profits soared 63 per cent to £24.1 million, prompting analysts to upgrade forecasts for 1998 to about £37.5 million. Pre-tax profits after exceptional items were £33.4 million, compared with a £6.1 million loss.

Total turnover fell from £667.2 million to £598.4 million after disposals, while earnings per share increased 34 per cent to 19.4p.

David Suddens, chief executive, said the company was in a position to look at acquisitions, which were more likely to be branded purchases, and would consider spending about £100 million on the right opportunities.

The company has earmarked about £20 million for a new information technology systems and management development.

A final dividend of 6.4p, will make the total for the year 10.3p, up from 9.35p.

## Waterford Wedgwood pre-tax rises

BY KATHY LIPARI

WATERFORD Wedgwood, the fine crystal and china group, yesterday unveiled a 15 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £140 million (£133 million) in 1997 after a strong performance from its Waterford division.

Richard Barnes, finance director, said the company was on target to double sales to £1.65 billion by the year 2000. However, there was still much to be done to bring the Wedgwood and recently acquired Rosenthal businesses up to the same growth levels of Waterford.

The crystal businesses improved operating profits by 32 per cent to £123.7 million. Wedgwood encountered difficulties because of the strength of sterling but managed a 1.4 per cent increase in operating profits to £121.5 million.

A £27.8 million provision dragged pre-tax total profit after exceptional items to £112.2 million (£134.9 million).

Sales, not including Rosenthal, rose 11 per cent to £1.417.2 million. Earnings were 18 per cent higher at 14.7p a share. A final dividend of 11.25p lifts the total to 11.6p (11.4p).

## API acquiring Astor Universal for £30.4m

API GROUP, the specialist packaging, coatings and office products company, is acquiring Astor Universal Group, a manufacturer of hot stamping and holographic foils used in packaging and security products, for £30.4 million. The business, with operations in Britain, America and France, is being acquired from America's Markem Corporation.

Established in Manchester more than 50 years ago as Milford-Astor, it came under US ownership in 1967. Last year Astor's operating profits were £1.9 million before management charges on turnover of £35.4 million. Net assets were £12.4 million at the end of 1997. API is funding the acquisition by way of a placing and open offer that will raise £29.5 million. Investors are being offered one new share for every five held at 565p a share. Yesterday the shares, which reached 755p last year, rose 5p to 612½p. API said despite difficult trading conditions, prospects remain positive.

## BBP Holdings up 24%

BBP HOLDINGS, the professional education group, announced a 24 per cent growth in pre-tax profits to £121 million on sales up from £75.5 million to £79.9 million. Earnings per share rose from 22.9p to 28.3p before exceptional items. The total dividend for the year was 16p per share, up 3p. The final dividend rises 22 per cent to 11.0p. Richard Price, chairman, said exports showed remarkable resilience during last year despite the strong pound although the strength of sterling still concerned the company.

## Prime People denial

PRIME PEOPLE, the leisure recruitment and training company, firmly denied that it had received any takeover approaches, while reporting a rise in profits and sales for the year to December 31. The company reported a 172 per cent rise in pre-tax profits from £126,605 to £244,175, on turnover of £3.9 million (£3.6m). Earnings per share rose from 0.35p to 0.94p. No dividend will be paid. David Coubrough, chief executive, said he was "committed to developing the company through organic growth and selective acquisition where appropriate".

## Wyevale grows to £9.1m

WYEVALE GARDEN CENTRES raised pre-tax profits from £7.9 million to £9.1 million in the year to December 31 on sales up from £54.7 million to £63 million. Earnings per share rose from 13.8p to 15.9p, out of which the total dividend rises from 6.12p to 6.86p. The board said: "With the strength of our balance sheet, gearing at a comfortable 18 per cent and the cash generation continuing to increase as we expand our business, we remain confident of the prospects for our long-term growth." The shares fell 3½p to 361½p.

## SGB optimistic

SGB, the scaffolding group which was spun off from John Mowlem and floated on the stock market last June, raised maiden pre-tax profits from £13.8 million to £17.5 million in the year to December 31, on sales down from £134.5 million to £128.2 million. Earnings per share rose from 18p to 19p and a final dividend of 4.5p is proposed. On the current year, Ken Minton, chairman, said: "Although it is only two months into the year, the business is performing well and the outlook is encouraging." The shares rose 20p to 177½p.

## Confidence at WSP

WSP, the consulting engineer, raised pre-tax profits by 41 per cent to £3.25 million in the year to December 31 on sales up 76 per cent to £49.7 million. Earnings rose 35 per cent to 7.3p a share out of which the total dividend rises 17 per cent to 2.8p after payment of a 1.6p final, up from 1.3p. The shares slipped 5p to 97½p. Peter Welch, chairman, said: "Where appropriate we will continue to consider acquisitions both in this country and overseas and I therefore look forward to the future with confidence."

## Strong pound hits Brent

PRE-TAX profits at Brent International, the chemicals, inks and coatings company, fell to £9.3 million from £10.2 million in 1997, adversely affected by the strength of sterling, which reduced profits by an estimated £1.1 million. Alec Daly, chairman, said the figures masked "a more encouraging underlying result". Turnover fell to £133.99 million from £140.2 million. Earnings rose to 8.8p a share from 8.6p. The total dividend is lifted to 3.5p a share from 3.2p, with a final 2.4p. The shares rose 2½p to 126p.

## United Carriers fear

FIRST-HALF profits at United Carriers Group will be adversely affected by the continued restructuring of the UK parcels business to cater for a marked increase in demand for next-day deliveries, the company said yesterday. United was reporting an increase in 1997 pre-tax profits to £2.2 million from £2.1 million. Earnings rose to 5.7p a share from 5.3p. The total dividend is lifted to 3.5p a share from 3.4p, with an unchanged final dividend of 1.8p. The shares rose 3½p to 61p. A year ago they traded at 103½p.

## Richardsons ahead

RICHARDSONS WESTGARTH, the steel stockholder, lifted pre-tax profits 10 per cent to £6.1 million in 1997. Turnover rose 8 per cent to £126.5 million despite a fall in steel prices to 1995 levels. Earnings rose 12 per cent to 11.3p a share. The total dividend is increased 10 per cent to 4.5p a share, with a final 2.9p. Roger Payton, chairman, said that import penetration was growing while UK manufacturers were experiencing difficulty in retaining their share of export markets. The shares rose 1p to 77p.

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# Equities close higher

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

| 1998                              | 1997 | 1996 | 1995 | 1994 | 1993 | 1992 | 1991 | 1990 | 1989 | 1988 | 1987 | 1986 | 1985 | 1984 | 1983 | 1982 | 1981 | 1980 | 1979 | 1978 | 1977 | 1976 | 1975 | 1974 | 1973 | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 | 1958 | 1957 | 1956 | 1955 | 1954 | 1953 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | 1944 | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1940 | 1939 | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 | 1922 | 1921 | 1920 | 1919 | 1918 | 1917 | 1916 | 1915 | 1914 | 1913 | 1912 | 1911 | 1910 | 1909 | 1908 | 1907 | 1906 | 1905 | 1904 | 1903 | 1902 | 1901 | 1900 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BANKS</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BREWERIES, PUBS &amp; REST</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>FOOD MANUFACTURERS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ENGINEERING VEHICLES</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>INVESTMENT TRUSTS</b>          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>MEDIA</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PROPERTY</b>                   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, GENERAL</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, FOOD</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>           |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TRANSPORT</b>                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>WATER</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET</b>     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |

| 1998                              | 1997 | 1996 | 1995 | 1994 | 1993 | 1992 | 1991 | 1990 | 1989 | 1988 | 1987 | 1986 | 1985 | 1984 | 1983 | 1982 | 1981 | 1980 | 1979 | 1978 | 1977 | 1976 | 1975 | 1974 | 1973 | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 | 1958 | 1957 | 1956 | 1955 | 1954 | 1953 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | 1944 | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1940 | 1939 | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 | 1922 | 1921 | 1920 | 1919 | 1918 | 1917 | 1916 | 1915 | 1914 | 1913 | 1912 | 1911 | 1910 | 1909 | 1908 | 1907 | 1906 | 1905 | 1904 | 1903 | 1902 | 1901 | 1900 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BANKS</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BREWERIES, PUBS &amp; REST</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>FOOD MANUFACTURERS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ENGINEERING VEHICLES</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>INVESTMENT TRUSTS</b>          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>MEDIA</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PROPERTY</b>                   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, GENERAL</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, FOOD</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>           |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TRANSPORT</b>                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>WATER</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET</b>     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |

| 1998                              | 1997 | 1996 | 1995 | 1994 | 1993 | 1992 | 1991 | 1990 | 1989 | 1988 | 1987 | 1986 | 1985 | 1984 | 1983 | 1982 | 1981 | 1980 | 1979 | 1978 | 1977 | 1976 | 1975 | 1974 | 1973 | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 | 1958 | 1957 | 1956 | 1955 | 1954 | 1953 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | 1944 | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1940 | 1939 | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 | 1922 | 1921 | 1920 | 1919 | 1918 | 1917 | 1916 | 1915 | 1914 | 1913 | 1912 | 1911 | 1910 | 1909 | 1908 | 1907 | 1906 | 1905 | 1904 | 1903 | 1902 | 1901 | 1900 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BANKS</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BREWERIES, PUBS &amp; REST</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>FOOD MANUFACTURERS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ENGINEERING VEHICLES</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>INVESTMENT TRUSTS</b>          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>MEDIA</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PROPERTY</b>                   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, GENERAL</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, FOOD</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>           |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TRANSPORT</b>                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>WATER</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET</b>     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |

| 1998                              | 1997 | 1996 | 1995 | 1994 | 1993 | 1992 | 1991 | 1990 | 1989 | 1988 | 1987 | 1986 | 1985 | 1984 | 1983 | 1982 | 1981 | 1980 | 1979 | 1978 | 1977 | 1976 | 1975 | 1974 | 1973 | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 | 1958 | 1957 | 1956 | 1955 | 1954 | 1953 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | 1944 | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1940 | 1939 | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 | 1922 | 1921 | 1920 | 1919 | 1918 | 1917 | 1916 | 1915 | 1914 | 1913 | 1912 | 1911 | 1910 | 1909 | 1908 | 1907 | 1906 | 1905 | 1904 | 1903 | 1902 | 1901 | 1900 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BANKS</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BREWERIES, PUBS &amp; REST</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>FOOD MANUFACTURERS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ENGINEERING VEHICLES</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>INVESTMENT TRUSTS</b>          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>MEDIA</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PROPERTY</b>                   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, GENERAL</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, FOOD</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>           |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TRANSPORT</b>                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>WATER</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET</b>     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |

| 1998                              | 1997 | 1996 | 1995 | 1994 | 1993 | 1992 | 1991 | 1990 | 1989 | 1988 | 1987 | 1986 | 1985 | 1984 | 1983 | 1982 | 1981 | 1980 | 1979 | 1978 | 1977 | 1976 | 1975 | 1974 | 1973 | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 | 1958 | 1957 | 1956 | 1955 | 1954 | 1953 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | 1944 | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1940 | 1939 | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 | 1922 | 1921 | 1920 | 1919 | 1918 | 1917 | 1916 | 1915 | 1914 | 1913 | 1912 | 1911 | 1910 | 1909 | 1908 | 1907 | 1906 | 1905 | 1904 | 1903 | 1902 | 1901 | 1900 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BANKS</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BREWERIES, PUBS &amp; REST</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>FOOD MANUFACTURERS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ENGINEERING VEHICLES</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>INVESTMENT TRUSTS</b>          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>MEDIA</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PROPERTY</b>                   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, GENERAL</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, FOOD</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>           |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TRANSPORT</b>                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>WATER</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET</b>     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |

| 1998                              | 1997 | 1996 | 1995 | 1994 | 1993 | 1992 | 1991 | 1990 | 1989 | 1988 | 1987 | 1986 | 1985 | 1984 | 1983 | 1982 | 1981 | 1980 | 1979 | 1978 | 1977 | 1976 | 1975 | 1974 | 1973 | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 | 1958 | 1957 | 1956 | 1955 | 1954 | 1953 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | 1944 | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1940 | 1939 | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 | 1922 | 1921 | 1920 | 1919 | 1918 | 1917 | 1916 | 1915 | 1914 | 1913 | 1912 | 1911 | 1910 | 1909 | 1908 | 1907 | 1906 | 1905 | 1904 | 1903 | 1902 | 1901 | 1900 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BANKS</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BREWERIES, PUBS &amp; REST</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>FOOD MANUFACTURERS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ENGINEERING VEHICLES</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>INVESTMENT TRUSTS</b>          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>MEDIA</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PROPERTY</b>                   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, GENERAL</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, FOOD</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>           |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TRANSPORT</b>                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>WATER</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET</b>     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |

| 1998                              | 1997 | 1996 | 1995 | 1994 | 1993 | 1992 | 1991 | 1990 | 1989 | 1988 | 1987 | 1986 | 1985 | 1984 | 1983 | 1982 | 1981 | 1980 | 1979 | 1978 | 1977 | 1976 | 1975 | 1974 | 1973 | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 | 1958 | 1957 | 1956 | 1955 | 1954 | 1953 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | 1944 | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1940 | 1939 | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 | 1922 | 1921 | 1920 | 1919 | 1918 | 1917 | 1916 | 1915 | 1914 | 1913 | 1912 | 1911 | 1910 | 1909 | 1908 | 1907 | 1906 | 1905 | 1904 | 1903 | 1902 | 1901 | 1900 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BANKS</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BREWERIES, PUBS &amp; REST</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>FOOD MANUFACTURERS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ENGINEERING VEHICLES</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>INVESTMENT TRUSTS</b>          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>MEDIA</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PRINTING &amp; PAPER</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PROPERTY</b>                   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, GENERAL</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>RETAILERS, FOOD</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>           |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TRANSPORT</b>                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>WATER</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET</b>     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |

**INVEST IN YOURSELF**

FOR ADULTS

**Centrum SELECT 50**

A COMPLETE MULTIVITAMIN-MINERAL SUPPLEMENT

**LIVE LIFE 100%**

| 1998                              | 1997 | 1996 | 1995 | 1994 | 1993 | 1992 | 1991 | 1990 | 1989 | 1988 | 1987 | 1986 | 1985 | 1984 | 1983 | 1982 | 1981 | 1980 | 1979 | 1978 | 1977 | 1976 | 1975 | 1974 | 1973 | 1972 | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 | 1958 | 1957 | 1956 | 1955 | 1954 | 1953 | 1952 | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 | 1944 | 1943 | 1942 | 1941 | 1940 | 1939 | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 | 1928 | 1927 | 1926 | 1925 | 1924 | 1923 | 1922 | 1921 | 1920 | 1919 | 1918 | 1917 | 1916 | 1915 | 1914 | 1913 | 1912 | 1911 | 1910 | 1909 | 1908 | 1907 | 1906 | 1905 | 1904 | 1903 | 1902 | 1901 | 1900 |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BANKS</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>BREWERIES, PUBS &amp; REST</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>FOOD MANUFACTURERS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>ENGINEERING VEHICLES</b>       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>INVESTMENT TRUSTS</b>          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>MEDIA</b>                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>            |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
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| <b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>           |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| <b>TRANSPORT</b>                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
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Two new London shows prove that Turner was as seduced by the new engines of industry as by the warm southern contours of Italy

# Forged in the white heat of technology

During the second half of the 18th century painting became a field of sensations, prodding the viewer into imagining the most tranquil, dramatic, sublime or horrifying impressions that the natural world could offer. Religious art, mythology and portraiture took second place for ambitious artists whose imaginations carried them into a world of interior feeling that for us today is art's natural territory.

Turner was at the forefront of this revolution. But as a new Tate exhibition shows, the Industrial Revolution that he lived through provided him with as much material as the Alps. Even if Turner did not entirely understand the scientific or engineering principles behind the new inventions, his patriotism and enthusiasm for the new led him to make steamships, engines, light-houses and railways part of his vision of England. In a period of rapid change even change itself can come to seem romantic.

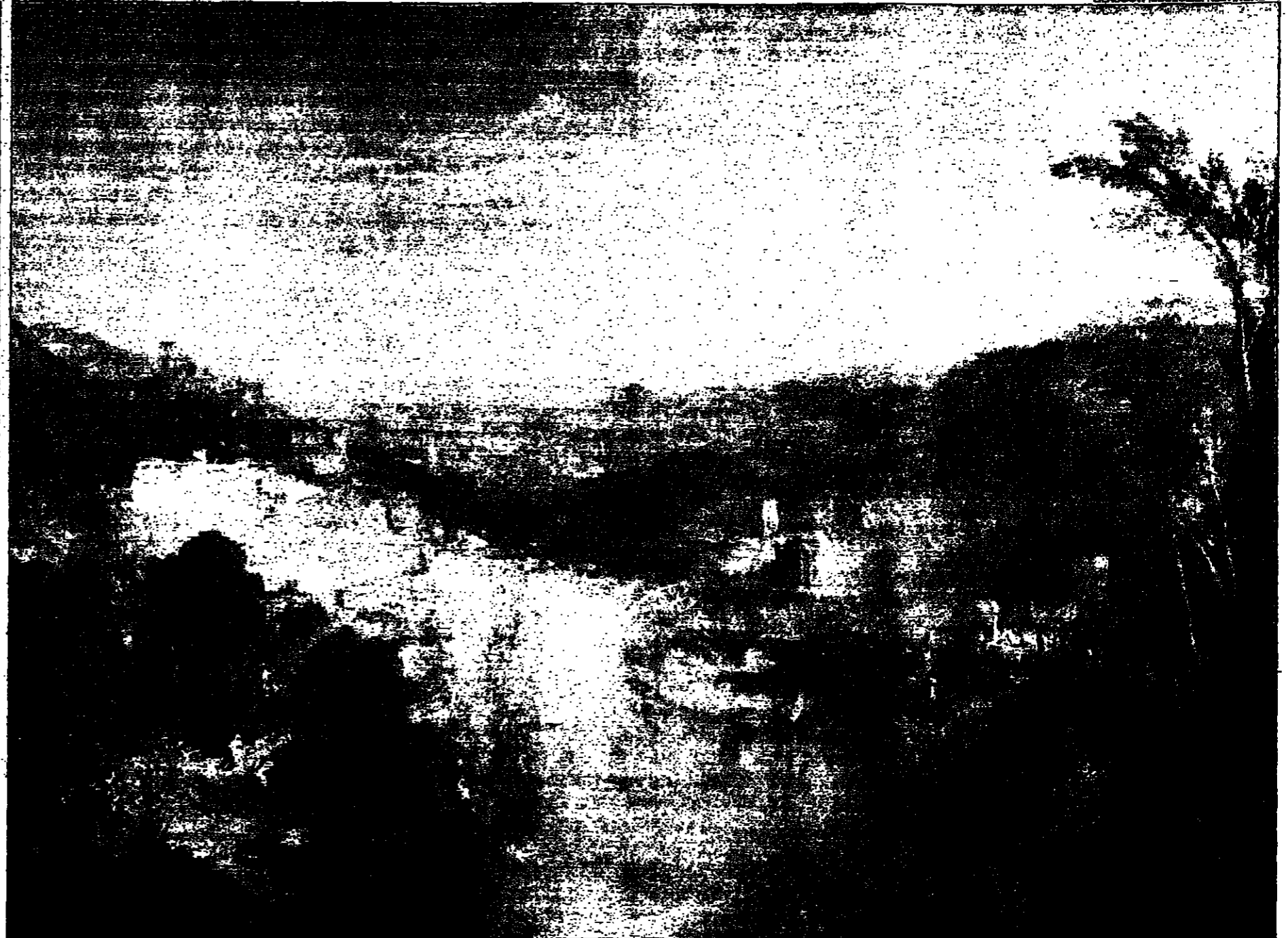
Turner's youth in Covent Garden laid the foundations for his later interests. The Thames with its shipping was near by, so was Long Acre, the centre of the carriage construction industry. There were building sites where Turner could watch the principles of architecture made real, and the learned societies all shared Somerset House in the Strand. Turner became a probationer at the Royal Academy in 1789, at the age of 14, and later met or made friends with scientists such as Sir Humphry Davy, Michael Faraday and Mary Somerville.

The barriers that exist today between the arts and sciences had not yet been erected. When Turner painted *Life-Boat and Manby Apparatus* in 1831 he was not just responding to the drama of a ship foundering in the storm or the mother and children watching anxiously. He was also celebrating Captain Manby's new life-saving invention: the unsinkable lifeboat and the Manby Apparatus Mortar, a small cannon that fired the end of a rope into a sinking ship. In the distance, a puff of smoke hangs above the wet sand at the same time as the flares explode in the air above the rolling ship, illuminating in a flash both it and the storm clouds behind. In a similar way, or so this exhibition argues, *Rain, Steam and Speed* is a tribute to the steam train and to Brunel's railway bridge for the Great Western Railway at Maidenhead. As the span of the Thames called for the construction of the largest elliptical arch ever made of brick, it was widely predicted that it would collapse in high winds. It didn't, and still stands today, but the steam engine battling through the driving rain takes on the heroic role of man's contest with the elements.

Turner made the Industrial Revolution a source of wonder

The high point of the exhibition's array of sketchbooks, watercolours and oils is arguably Turner's most atmospheric work — some consider it the best of all his paintings. *Snow Storm — Steam-boat off a Harbour's Mouth Making Signals in Shallow Water and Going by the Lead* is a howling vortex of wind and waves with two steam boats at the raging centre. Next to it is displayed Michael Faraday's experiment with iron filings on a sheet of paper with two bar magnets beneath. The circular lines of force mapped out by the iron filings do seem to be echoed by Turner's dragged brushstrokes of black paint. But on whatever level Turner is analysed, sensation — the internal drama of experience — was always the central subject of his paintings.

ISABEL CARLISLE  
Turner and the Scientists: An Artist in Two Cultures, sponsored by Magnox Electric, is at the Tate Gallery until June 21, admission free



Visions of a young Romantic at the Dulwich Gallery: never very interested in figures, Turner tucks them away in a corner of *Modern Italy: The Pifferari* merely to give a sense of scale

# Trips into the light fantastic

The Grand Tour as the 18th century had known it ended with the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Wars which followed. By the time the coast was clear for cultivated travellers to go back to the old stamping grounds in 1814, the whole situation had changed. The travellers tended to be of a different class, decidedly more bourgeois, and likewise the concept of cultivation had changed. Instead of gilded youth from the *ancien régime* having the finishing touches put to their education, the new traveller was likely to belong to the "bliss was it in that dawn to be alive" generation,

his attitudes Romantic and his purpose practical. He might very well be a painter looking for local colour. The Dulwich Picture Gallery's spring show, *Italy in the Age of Turner*, shows exactly how that turned out. The young Romantic painter, having been denied the reality of Italy for so long, had fed on visions. Dulwich Gallery (founded in 1911) is the perfect place for getting a line on these visions, since just round the corner from the exhibition itself are a number of the permanent collection's most splendid Claudes, Poussins and Richard Wilsons, such as were clearly in the mind of the

young Turner and his fellows before they ever set foot in Italy itself. Strong as the heroic fantasy may have been, the reality was stronger. Though the pleasure of ruins persists, it is matched in the unruly life which infested the ruins. Turner was least interested, because he was never much interested in people anyway. In the big works such as *Tivoli: Tobias and the Angel*, borrowed from the Tate, and *Modern Italy: The Pifferari*, from Kelvingrove, the figures fulfil their traditional function of *échauffage*, tucked away in a corner of the landscape to give an awe-inspiring sense of scale.

What fascinated Turner, face to face with the dazzling Mediterranean light and able at last to imbibe a beskerful of the warm South, was the atmosphere and the way it dissolved away the accidents of terrain to bring observers closer to the essence. John Martin might continue to evoke the destruction of Pompeii without ever setting foot in Italy, but others were more down-to-earth. Samuel Palmer was able to illustrate Dickens's *Pictures from Italy* (1846) without reflecting any of the text's harsher views, but John Frederick Lewis just enjoys the human colour and animation of *Easter Day at Rome* (1840), and Thomas Uwins

makes *The Saint Manufactory* (1832) into a fully fledged popular anecdote, with all shades of feeling reflected in a Neapolitan sculptor's workshop. The Romantic glamour quickly gives way to the light of common day, and soon the topographers like Lear, Eastlake and even Ruskin have moved in. But for just a few magic moments the real seems to new eyes almost as fantastic as the heroic ideal it is replacing. JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR  
Dulwich Picture Gallery, College Road, SE21 0R1-0R3 (023). Tues-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 11am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, until May 24. Gallery admission £3, concs £1.50

Had he been born 30 years earlier, Jimmy Webb would probably have enjoyed a distinguished backroom career in the songwriting workshop known as Tin Pan Alley. But this self-confessed admirer of Rodgers and Hammerstein is a child of the Sixties, although his own generation has never quite known what to make of him. A writer, producer and orchestrator, he has mingled with Joe Cocker, Harry Nilsson and Art Garfunkel, yet has also had his work recorded by Frank Sinatra and Richard Harris. It was the country singer Glen Campbell, of course, who gave him his most dazzling run of successes from

# So you want to be a songwriter?

JAZZ: Jimmy Webb is handing on his knowhow. Clive Davis reports

Galveston to *Wichita Lineman* and *By The Time I Get To Phoenix*. Yet the very fact that the middle-of-the-road Campbell performed them was enough to condemn their author in the eyes of the fashion-conscious. As an entertainer in his own right, Webb long ago moved



Jimmy Webb: right track

"I had no idea it was going to grow into something as big as this," he says. "I started out by saying to myself, 'Well, I think I'll write a little book about songwriting this weekend, and then I'll play some tennis.' And since then it's just taken over. I suppose I've only written half a dozen songs in the past couple of years." Having worked his way through standard texts such as Alec Wilder's pioneering *American Popular Song*, Webb has developed a sense of perspective on songwriting, and is alarmed by what he sees in the Nineties. "We're in a period now

where the traditions of songwriting are being bulldozed indiscriminately," he observes. "My generation is the original culprit, because we were the ones who started fudging the corners and glossing over the rhyme schemes and generally pool-pooping the crossing of the Ts and the dotting of the Is."

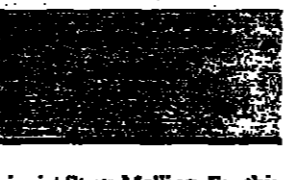
A chasm separates him from his sons. "Today's bands have even less regard for what we think of as form. What's missing is a real melodic sense. We started this snow-balling effect. My sons will know even less about the craft of writing songs. That's why I wrote my book. There's no help-line for young songwriters."

Of course, Webb could simply be speaking for all those over-indulged music tycoons who have been elbowed aside by the march of time; but some of us, depressed by the marketing of Oasis or the Spice Girls, think he is on the right track. Arch-traditionalists may feel that Webb is no George Gershwin. Then again, is Noel Gallagher a Jimmy Webb?

Jimmy Webb's tour begins at Ashcroft Hall, Crofton, on Friday, then Corn Exchange, Cambridge; Jazz Cafe, London; Queens Hall, Edinburgh; Elmwood Hall, Belfast; Olympia, Dublin.

# Fine tribute to high Art

SINCE his death in 1990, Art Blakey has been revered in the jazz community for a great deal more than his uniquely energising drumming. Not only did he keep the jazz torch burning brightly during the rock-dominated 1970s, but he helped to lay the foundations for its revival in the 1980s and 1990s by nurturing, in successive versions (1956-90) of his hard-bop sextet the Jazz Messengers, the early careers of a series of great players. If Blakey has a UK equivalent, it is fellow drummer Clark Tracey. Talents nurtured in his various bands over the years include trumpeters Guy Barker and Gerard Presencer, saxophonists Jamie Talbot and Nigel Hitchcock, bassists Alec Dankworth and Artie Somogyi, and



pianist Steve Melling. For this Blakey tribute, both Barker and Melling rejoined their former leader, the sextet completed by alto player Alan Barnes, bassist Dave Green and — a former Messenger now resident in the UK — tenor player Jean Toussaint. Tracey began with two appropriately percussive Messengers staples — *Drum Thunder Suite* and (one of the Blakey band's most celebrated numbers) *Blues March*. Like Blakey, Tracey is an unrivalled spark of a band, his press rolls constantly urging

his soloists to ever greater heights, but he also demonstrated another facet of his art shared with Blakey: intense musicality. Both in the opening suite and throughout the subsequent two-set programme, Tracey not only provided the characteristic heavy Messenger backbeats for such pieces as Bobby Watson's *Hawk-Man*, but also made frequent but judicious use of his elbow to "tune" his drums, timpani-style. The enthusiasm of the audience response was not only a deserved tribute to Tracey's sterling service to home-grown jazz over the years, but yet another sign that repertory music is on something of a roll at present. CHRIS PARKER

# Wheel of misfortune

THEATRE  
Dulwich Picture Gallery  
From Glasgow

Every little boy needs a mummy and daddy to lean on, whatever age he is. How to fill the void though, once they're dead and gone? Well, in this UK premiere of the much-lauded play by the Italian playwright Vittorio Franceschi, 12 years after their parents' death in a car crash, brothers Valerio and Antonio are locked into an elaborate routine of denial. Antonio, who also lost his blonde lover in the accident, has retreated into childhood, becoming a spoilt, attention-seeking brat whose broken toys litter the floor. Valerio, who was at the wheel, has been thrust through guilt into an altogether more responsible role, albeit with a crazed edge. For, to satiate Antonio's tantrums, he dresses up as both dead parents, absorbing their quirks as children dipping into a dressing-up box would. Even more disturbing, once he dons a blonde wig and bridal gown, he's the spitting image of Antonio's slain girlfriend. All this provides an irresistible framework that allows the siblings the illusion of shutting out the pain. But when Valerio introduces his prim girlfriend Marianna into the equation, cracks start to show. Marianna is both repelled and excited by Antonio's kindergarten bally-boo act, a world away from Valerio's limp subservience. She becomes a catalyst whereby these two emotionally stunted men have the chance to start living again, although, by the end, it seems that she is the only one who has made it. "Those who pursue are always happier than those who run away," is the play's crucial line. Franceschi's theatrical mechanics may be more complex than his contemporary Dario Fo's, but they are just as madcap. Which is why Erina Brogi's production seems so curiously out of kilter. For all its inventive peccadilloes, its extremely able cast of John Bett, Andy Gray and Fiona Bell seem to be holding back.

Bottom, taking in Steptoe and son en route. Here, though, Godot turns up in the shape of Marianna, only to slip through their fingers at the eleventh hour. A heartbreaking final image sees the brothers resigned to their fate although for Antonio at least there is still a semblance of hope, as he recognises that somewhere deep inside, buried alive, a heart still beats. How to get at that life, though, is anybody's guess. NEIL COOPER

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THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

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ANTIQUE & ART FAIRS; THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA...

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Why I ends gather 'd sparks fly

# Why I'm worried about Tony

John Tusa, head of the Barbican Centre, argues that the arts are being harmed by the Prime Minister's personal antipathy

Some readers will remember the familiar complaint of the anonymous writer of *Mrs Dale's Diary*, mother of all radio soaps. "I'm worried about Jim," she would confide anxiously, Jim being her doctor husband. Well, I am worried about the Prime Minister and the curious ideas he seems to have about the arts world; not just the ideas, but some significant blank spots in his view of them.

Both — ideas and blank spots — account for the Government's failure to treat the arts properly or sensibly. And I am not the only one worried about Tony. The Culture Department is worried sick, too.

Let's start with those parties at No 10. By all means invite the "celebrity" world, the rock and pop world, the showbiz world, to bask in New Labour sunshine once. (Though judging by Daman Albarn's dismissal of the parties as "disgusting and vulgar," perhaps a comment on Noel Gallagher, not all were impressed.) But to do so three times and to overlook the world of arts so thoroughly is pretty alarming.

Does Tony Blair really enjoy talking to Noel Gallagher more than he might, say, to John Tomlinson, the greatest Wagnerian bass in the world? Does he really enjoy chatting to Chris Evans or to Zoë Ball more than he might to Beryl Bainbridge, Ian McEwan or Martin Amis? Could he not have invited fewer pop group representatives and added a classical group such as the Lindseys, one of Britain's finest string quartets, or discovered the sprightly diversity of the Nash Ensemble players? He could have asked Dame Judi Dench or Juliet Stevenson, as well as Liz Dawn of *Coronation Street*. As it was, they were very lop-sided lists, doing no sort of credit to Britain's internationally acclaimed arts achievers.

So I'm worried about the Prime Minister because he is signalling that Oasis is as important to Britain as opera; that chat shows are as important as novels; that television soap operas are more valuable than live theatre; and that all sorts of other key ingredients of the arts matter not at all. If it had happened just once, then it would not have been worth mentioning, but three times — not to speak of the official heavyweight Cabinet turn-out at the Britpop awards (did all those ministers really want to be there?) — is no accident, comrades.

But there is worse to come. It is clear that the Prime Minister simply does not understand why the arts world is in such an uproar at

New Labour's funding failures in the arts field. He is puzzled and has asked the Culture Department more in anger than in sorrow — what is going on.

The puzzlement is said to stem from his conversion to the idea of the "creative industries". For in New Labour ideology, only the creative industries count, and the party has been assiduous in devising policies directed to helping them. Given that, everything should be rosy. But the Prime Minister fails to understand that the creative industries — film, video, TV, design, rock and pop — essential and admirable as they are, are only a part of the world of arts, and in some cases an applied extension of them. Having bought

**6 In New Britain there seems to be no place for high culture or continuity**

the idea of their importance and of the need to support them, he stopped looking beyond their boundaries.

In backing "the arts that pay", and overlooking and undervaluing "the arts that cost", Blair shows himself to be the true son of Margaret Thatcher. In New Labour's Victorian world where the virtuous work and earn, the arts may (claim to) work but they manifestly do not earn — they are a cost to the community, a charge to the taxpayer, a burden on the citizen. This makes them less desirable (to New Labour), and certainly less deserving, than the virtuous worlds of the "creative industries". So their indigent representatives do not cross the portals of Downing Street.

But the confusion about where the arts start, or finish, and the creative industries begin goes deeper still. "New Labour" was a triumphant exercise in rebranding — new people, new titles, new logo, new colour, new clothes, new language — and now "New Britain" has to be rebranded too. Out goes anything to do with the past, out goes anything to do with culture or continuity because it has been branded as (the

killer word) "heritage", and somebody has persuaded Blair — or perhaps he needed no persuading — that the arts are just dead heritage, backward looking, stuffy, uncreative and unsellable to foreigners.

Leave aside the fact that a casual glance at the arts scene in Britain — whether theatre, literature, music or painting — will show them to be exploratory and innovative as well as aware of their historical roots, the "H" word — a Reaganite formulation in any case, destructively adopted by the Thatcherites — has been foisted on to the arts and now hangs around their collective neck like the proverbial albatross. But it has been pinned on the arts by outsiders and is no part of the way the arts see or describe themselves. As a result of the pejorative use of the "H" word, the arts are not only not included in the grand project of the rebranding, or projecting, of New Britain, they must be seen to be excluded in a very public way.

And one further bogey word has now been pinned on to the arts: "elitism". I'm worried of being caught even looking elitist. I know that prime ministerial diaries are very full, but he does get to the theatre from time to time; he was at the Barbican only last week. Surely he could see for himself how ludicrously inaccurate is the smear of the alleged elitism or exclusivity of the arts audiences.

And this leads me to the core of my "worries about Tony". Simply, that the arts do not matter to him personally because they are a marginal and thinly rooted side of his own experiences. He is a true child of the Sixties; the rock and pop world is the one that he likes instinctively; he is simply not at ease in the arts world. His evident lack of esteem for it — as evidenced by the way his Government treats it — springs from that essential personal discomfort.

Now, I may be wrong. I hope I am. But all his actions signal the reverse, that he has pop stars to his parties because he feels most comfortable with them. By contrast, the arts are now lumbered in the Prime Minister's mind with a heap of pejorative associations. We can expect little sympathy, minimal understanding, and feeble support for the financial crisis in which the performing arts now find themselves. Against this damaging prime ministerial mind-set, weak protestations from the Culture Department count for nothing. That's why "I'm worried about Tony".



John Tusa: "In backing 'the arts that pay' over 'the arts that cost', Blair is the true son of Thatcher"

## Credits above the titles

THE HITCHERS stand out from the pack of emerging Irish bands as prime exponents of angular, pithy pop. Combining satirical lyrics with memorable tunes, this Limerick four-piece charmed critics with last year's debut album, *It's All Fun and Games 'Til Someone Loses an Eye*.

The main songwriter and drummer, Niall Quinn (not the footballer), was the original lead singer when they were the Cranberry Saw Us, but you would never know this by listening to his current band. This is short, sharp punk pop with a clever, comedic bark that hides an altogether frost-

POP  
**The Hitchers**  
Dublin

er bite. The song titles alone suggest as much: *You Can Only Love Someone So Much*, *But You Can Hate Them All*, *The Way To Hell* is eminently quotable, as is *You're Only Half As Ugly As You Think You Are*.

These were performed with zest and purpose, but unfortunately the Mean Fiddler was only half as full as it should have been. It appears that the Hitchers have still to move beyond the cult status that brought them such a high placing in John Peel's end-of-year listeners' chart.

The song that brought them the Peel seal of approval, *Strachan*, is a quirky bloke's eye view of the battle of the sexes that also passes as an endearing homage to the former Scotland midfielder general. The twin guitar assaults of Eric Fitzgerald and singer Andy Gallagher make it sound initially like your standard grunge workout, but then Gallagher throws in a whistle solo in the middle that puts an extra spin on the ball. Even the Abba cover at the end (*Mamma Mia*) was on-side, honest, ref.

Visually too the Hitchers make a splash. Bright orange shirts, woolly hats and goatee beards abound while the bass player answers to the name of Hoss Carnage. There should always be a light in the window for such mavericks.

NICK KELLY

## In the shade of Shostakovich

There were giants at play on Sunday night, but none greater than the sent member, Shostakovich. As a tearful Maxim Vengerov embraced Mstislav Stropovich, the standing audience was in no doubt that it witnessed history in the living.

In two hours, three generations of Russian musicians came together to pass on the rears of Shostakovich. The list Rostropovich gave the orchestra he so often played with — composer, Yuri Bashmet formed the valedictory *Victory Sonata* with Milkhaian, the pianist who smiled it; and the violinist Vengerov partnered Rostropovich in the Second Piano Trio. This work served to summarise their relationship:



as the cellist voiced the opening melody in eerie stopped harmonics, Vengerov echoed him with the unblemished sound of youth. Later, as the violin took flight, Rostropovich provided gruff bass support; his pungent humour in the allegro complemented Vengerov as the crazed colt, and their bulging syncope-tones raised a laugh.

Ian Brown drove the performance forward with demonic energy, drumming up a tumultuous climax in the last

movement. The ensemble between Vengerov and Rostropovich, his mentor, is touching, and the younger man brings out the best of the older.

By contrast, Rostropovich's performance of the sonata was imitatively impetuous and uneven. He has long ceased to be primarily a cellist, and his detachment from the instrument is disconcerting. Yet he can still astonish. The power and clarity of his tone came into its own in the romantic interludes of the first movement after a restless distracted opening, and again in the fiery scherzo. Cellists today so often make too much of the detail in this opening movement; it is as well to be reminded of its breezier, larger scope, just as it is to remember the dead, grey sound of the slow movement

— that premonition, in 1934, of the despair that lay ahead.

What followed could not have been more different: Bashmet and Muntian's performance of Shostakovich's final, haunted work was unforgettable. The violist's relationship with his instrument is of such concentration and intimacy that it demanded and won absolute stillness from a hitherto noisy audience.

In his seamless arch of *Aria* the viola tone was of a focus and intensity undreamt-of moments before in the austere opening. In the final movement, with its weird remembrance of the *Moonlight Sonata*, both artists achieved a prayer-like stasis keeping vigil over its long cry of pain.

HELEN WALLACE

## Friends gather and sparks fly

WLEFORCE winds blew the BBC Singers into Amsterdam this weekend at the end of a week of standing ovations in Paris and Lyons. Hilary Finch writes. This was a mini-tour in the Ensemble InterContemporain and, once again, Pierre Boulez had summoned his favourite choir to its attendance.

Farrison Birtwistle turned up, too, at a sold-out concert in Concertgebouw that featured works by both composers.

This was a rare opportunity to hear Birtwistle's *Agamemnon* and three cups of instruments. Based on fragments of a text by Sophocles, it is a savage, splendidly stubborn work, bringing together both the composer's obsession with the music of the archaic ritual and, in its use of isorhythms, his early study of the medieval composer Guillaume de Machaut.

A single intoned monotone leads out to bare vocal notes, gradually beaten into a rhythmic pattern as coppersmith and sounds are bent and broken as the glaring light from the instrumental ring glances off them. Both BBC Singers and the Ensemble InterContemporain



performed as if they had enough energy and stamina to spare for at least another week's touring.

It was good, too, to hear Boulez's 1970 chamber cantata, *Cummings ist der dichter*, a portrait of the poet who has fascinated Boulez and drew from him a lithe, elated response, as freshly imaginative today as when it was composed. Human voices become absorbed elusively into instrumental ones: breath becomes pitch as gently and suddenly as the brush of a bird's wing.

In a programme devised by Boulez himself, his own music and that of Birtwistle was framed by Anton Webern. After the *Five Pieces* of his Op 10 and his Concerto Op 24, both given most sensitive, elegant performances by the Ensemble InterContemporain conducted by Boulez, this rare and rewarding concert ended with virtuoso performances by the women of the BBC Singers of *Four Russian Peasant Songs* by Stravinsky, and Bartok's *Three Village Scenes*.

## GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

RUMON GAMBA

Age: 25  
Profession: Conductor. He has just won the first Lloyds Bank Young Conductors Competition, part of the BBC Young Musicians '98 series



The prize? Assistant conductorship of the BBC Philharmonic for a year, with its package of concerts, broadcasts and assisting at rehearsals.

How did it all start? Gamba is a cellist who studied at Durham University, where he took up the baton "out of frustration" at some of the conductors he played under. Now he studies conducting with Colin Metters at the Royal Academy of Music.

Mentors? Sir Colin Davis, "because of his amazingly relaxed relationship, both with orchestras and with the music". And the Russian veteran Ilya Musin, "for his ability to represent, even in a 94-year-old body, exactly what the orchestra should be playing."

Is the "choreography" important? "Yes, totally. Teaching the body and the muscles to be able to represent the shape of the music, without your having to say a word."

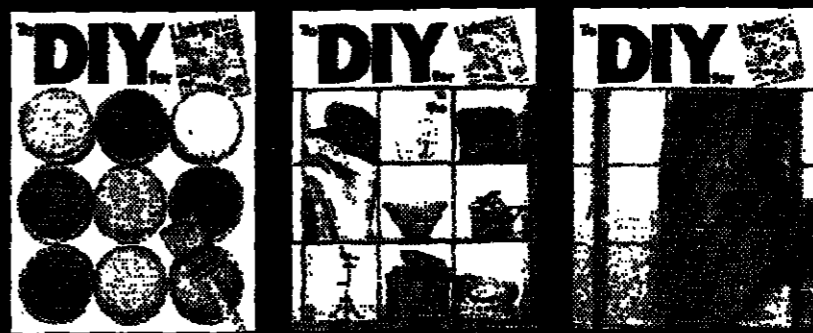
Fortcoming gigs: Summer concerts with the Ipswich Orchestral Society, of which he is conductor, and with the BBC Philharmonic.

Ambitions: "To do more opera. I spent last summer with British Youth Opera, which was a really great opportunity. But it has to be the right project."

HILARY FINCH

THE SUNDAY TIMES

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# Bank did not breach duty of care in sale

**AIB Finance Ltd v Debtors (Alsop and Another)**  
 Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Potter and Lord Justice Mummery  
 [Judgment March 3]

The duty of care owed to a borrower by the lender in exercising his power of sale of business premises might possibly include a duty to pursue a sale of the property and the business as a going concern, but any such duty could not exist in circumstances where the business had ceased before the lender had obtained possession of the premises.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal, but for a differing reason, by the debtors, Angela and Alan Alsop, from the judgment of Mr Justice Carnwath (The Times April 8, 1997, [1997] 4 All ER 477) that had allowed an appeal by the bank, AIB Finance Ltd, from a district judge's order in bankruptcy proceedings that had granted applications by the debtors to set aside statutory demands.

The debtors were the proprietors of the Post Office Stores, Cross in Hand, East Sussex. They had run it as a post office, newsagent and off-licence. In 1988 they entered into a mortgage with the bank, covering both the premises and the goodwill of the business by way of security for a loan of £160,000.

They fell into arrears, by 1994 ceasing to make any payments under the mortgage. In September 1995 the bank obtained a possession order and judgment for arrears and principal totalling £212,806 against the debtors. Thereafter the business closed and

in December 1995 the bank repossessed the property. In April 1996 it was sold for £43,500. Statutory demands were served on the debtors in respect of the shortfall due to the bank.

Those demands were set aside by District Judge Fawcett who held that the bank's failure to ensure that the business was preserved afforded the debtors a defence and possibly a substantial counterclaim.

Mr Justice Carnwath, allowing the bank's appeal, held that the debtors had an arguable counterclaim but concluded that it was not one which had any prospect under regulation 6.5(4)(a) of the Insolvency Rules (SI 1986 No 1925) of being found to "equal or exceed" the amount of the statutory demand.

Regulation 6.5 of the Insolvency Rules sets out grounds on which the court could allow applications to set aside a statutory demand including (4)(a) the debtor asserts to have a counterclaim, set-off or cross-demand which equals or exceeds the amount of the debt or debts specified in the statutory demand.

Mr Peter Leighton for the debtors, Mr David Iwi for the bank.

LORD JUSTICE MUMMERY said that the decisive issue on the appeal was whether the debtors appeared to have a counterclaim against the bank which equalled or exceeded the amount of the debt specified in the statutory demands.

Mr Leighton challenged the judge's conclusion on the value of the counterclaim. He accepted that in order to succeed he had to persuade the court that there was

an arguable breach of duty by the bank both in relation to the sale of the freehold premises in April 1996 and the preservation of the goodwill of the business.

Mr Leighton submitted that the bank was under a duty of care in respect of the sale of the mortgaged property that mortgaged property included the benefit of the goodwill in the business, that although the bank was not under a duty to sell at any particular time or indeed at all, it should have included the benefit of the goodwill in the sale; it should have taken steps to market the business in its best advantage, and had it done so the debt might have been extinguished.

But the appeal had to fail because, on a proper appreciation of the nature and extent of the bank's duty as a mortgagee, the debtors had no arguable counterclaim. The legal position was that the bank had not repossessed the property until December 1995. By that time the debtors had lost the post office concession, disposed of the newspaper round, closed down the business and moved out of the premises.

Thus it was difficult to see how any duty on the bank to preserve or safeguard the goodwill of the business could have arisen. Before taking possession of the premises there were no reasonable steps the bank could have taken to preserve or dispose of the business as a going concern.

No authority could be found for the proposition that a mortgagee was under any general duty to take steps to safeguard and preserve its security ahead of obtaining control.

The debtors had no arguable counterclaim against the bank and thus it was unnecessary for the purposes of deciding the appeal to express any view on the debtors' other challenges to the judge's conclusion.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE, agreeing, said that it was established by *Chickmire Brick Co Ltd v Mutual Finance Ltd* [1971] Ch 949 and *Parsons Trade v Duxbury Bank plc* [1991] Ch 12 that a mortgagee, although he might exercise his power of sale at any time of his own choice, owed the mortgagor a duty to take reasonable care to obtain a proper price for the mortgaged property at that time. That duty was not imposed in nature but one recognised as equity arising out of the particular relationship between the mortgagee and mortgagor.

One of the debtors' claims was that, in selling the property for £43,500 in April 1996 the bank had not taken reasonable care to obtain a proper price.

However, Mr Leighton had recognised that a successful outcome to that claim would not by itself achieve a victory for the debtors. So everything depended on their being able successfully to contend that the bank owed them, and was in breach of an additional and anterior duty.

First, Mr Leighton submitted that in the circumstances the bank came under a duty to the debtors to take steps in procuring a sale of the property and the business as a going concern at a proper price.

While it might be possible to

conceive of circumstances in which a mortgagee could come under a duty of that kind, they were not the circumstances of the present case.

Alternatively, Mr Leighton said, the bank was under a duty to the debtors, before they effectively closed down the business, to preserve the business and thus to facilitate a sale as a going concern.

That submission was unsustainable. A mortgagee who had the necessary powers, as the bank had here, could, if he chose to do so, appoint a receiver to manage the business whose goodwill was comprised in the security. But he was under no duty to take that or any other step to preserve the business, any more than he was under a duty to preserve any other form of security, unless and until he took possession of it.

By the time the bank had possession of the premises the debtors had, of their own volition, abandoned the goodwill of the business from the security. After taking possession the bank could not be said to owe a duty to the debtors in respect of the business and it did not owe them one before then.

The judge's view that the debtors had an arguable counterclaim was wrong. The bank was entitled to succeed while leaving sympathy for the debtors in the predicament in which they found themselves, their appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Justice Potter agreed.

Solicitors: R. G. F. Vickery & Co, Bideford; Moran & Co, Tamworth.

# Bias towards remedying defects in pleadings

**Brophy and Another v Dunphy's Chartered Surveyors**  
 Before Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Mr Justice Holman  
 [Judgment March 2]

When deciding whether to strike out a claim on the ground that the pleadings disclosed no reasonable cause of action, the proper approach for the court was to give the plaintiff leave to amend his pleadings unless the court was satisfied that no amendment could cure the defect.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the defendants, Dunphy's, a firm of chartered surveyors, against refusal by Judge Gibson sitting at Brentford County Court to strike out a claim by the plaintiffs, Mr and Mrs Brophy, as disclosing no cause of action.

Mr Mark Simpson for Dunphy's, Mr Christopher Cutting for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said that the plaintiffs claimed that they relied on a property valuation by the defendant, Mr and Mrs Brophy, as disclosing no cause of action.

Acting for themselves, they commenced proceedings in the county court. In a transcript they filed in support of their claim, they set out a default summons when the amount was not filed. In the box "Plaintiff's full name and address" they gave their names and the address of the property.

In the box labelled "Give brief description of type of claim" they wrote "Professional negligence" and in the box for "Particulars of the plaintiff's claim against you" they wrote "Professional negligence - loss and damage occasioned by negligent valuation of property. We claim damages interest and costs for such period and

at such rate as the court shall deem just."

In the same box, against "My claim is worth" they ticked the small box for "Over £5,000". No other particulars of claim were enclosed.

Mr Simpson submitted that in accordance with the authorities on which he relied such as *Leung v Cooper* [1965] 1 QB 232 and *Brace v Qildham Press Ltd* [1936] 1 KB 697 the identity or address of the property was an essential part of the cause of action.

While he did not concede that other facts such as the relationship between the parties and the reliance by the plaintiffs on the defendant's valuation did not need to be pleaded, he argued that the identification of the property was the most material fact omitted and that that omission was fatal to the plaintiffs' particulars of claim.

It was noticeable that all the authorities relied on by Mr Simpson related to proceedings in the High Court. While there was no doubt that the constituents of a cause of action were the same in High Court and county court proceedings it would be wrong to assume that the requirements for High Court proceedings would in all respects be matched by the requirements for county court proceedings.

Not every material fact the pleading of which would be required in the High Court might be necessary for particulars of claim in the county court.

Having regard to the fact that, as the framers of the County Court Rules and the prescribers of the County Court forms well knew, county court proceedings would be commenced by litigants in person even more frequently than in the High Court, because the lower values of the claims might not justify the expense of obtaining professional help and having regard to the forms prescribed, as

the court was entitled to have regard to what they revealed it was expected that a plaintiff had to do.

In considering whether to strike out the proper approach for the court was to give the plaintiff leave to amend unless the court was satisfied that no amendment would cure the defect.

The present case was one in which the plaintiffs by their existing particulars of claim had pleaded just enough to enable the court to say that the particulars of claim, though defective and in need of particularisation, presented a substantial case and the court could not be satisfied that the plaintiffs would not succeed if the material defects were cured by the proposed amendment.

Had the plaintiffs described the property as "the above property", referring to the property in the address given on the form, the property referred to in the pleadings would surely have been sufficiently identified. Again if they had referred to "our property" the court would with little difficulty allow particulars to be given.

In his Lordship's judgment, it was implicit in the claim that the property "subject of the negligence" would not succeed if the plaintiffs would not succeed if the material defects were cured by the proposed amendment.

The omission to state the relationship between the plaintiffs and the defendant was general negligence and the duty of care implicitly alleged; and the omission to state the reliance by the plaintiffs on the defendant's valuation implicitly alleged in the claim of loss occasioned by the negligent valuation, were also defects which the court would also allow to be cured by amendment by the plaintiffs.

Mr Justice Holman delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Williams Davies Mellers; Lee & Co, Wembley.

# Serving process on British branch of overseas company

**Saab and Another v Saudi American Bank**  
 Before Mr Justice Tuckey  
 [Judgment February 10]

Process could be served on the British branch of an overseas company where the business that was the subject of the dispute between the parties had been carried on both by the British branch and by an overseas entity of the company.

Mr Justice Tuckey so held in chambers in the Queen's Bench Division in refusing the applica-

tion of Saudi American Bank to set aside service of the writ in an action brought against them by Ayoub-Farid Saab and Fadi Saab for misrepresentation and negligence over an agreement to place shares.

Section 690A of the Companies Act 1985, as inserted by regulations 3(1) and 5 of the Overseas Companies and Credit and Financial Institutions (Branch Disclosure) Regulations (SI 1992 No 3179), provides: "(1) This section applies to any limited company which -

(a) is incorporated outside the United Kingdom and (b) has a branch in Great Britain."

Section 694A of the 1985 Act, as inserted by regulation 3(1), provides: "(1) This section applies to any company to which section 690A applies.

"(2) Any process or notice required to be served on a company to which this section applies in respect of the carrying on of the business of a branch registered by it under paragraph 1 of Schedule

21A is sufficiently served if - (a) addressed to any person whose name has, in respect of the branch, been delivered to the registrar as a person falling within paragraph 3(e) of that Schedule and (b) left at or sent by post to the address for that person which has been so delivered."

Paragraph 1 of Schedule 21A, as inserted by regulation 3(1), provides: "(1) A company shall, within one month of having opened a branch in a part of Great Britain, deliver to the registrar ... (b) such

particulars about the branch as are specified in paragraph 3. . ."

Paragraph 3 provides: "The particulars referred to in paragraph 1(b) are . . . (a) a list of the names and addresses of all persons resident in Great Britain authorised to accept on the company's behalf of service of process."

Mr Peter Goldsmith, QC and Mr Andrew Sutcliffe for the plaintiffs; Mr Lawrence Collins, QC, solicitor, and Mr Campbell McLachlan, solicitor, for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE TUCKEY said that the question of law he had to decide was: if process served was only in part in respect of the carrying out on of branch's business, but in part in respect of the overseas company's business elsewhere, could the process properly be served on the branch?

Before 1992, any process required to be served on a company was sufficiently served if addressed to a person listed with the registrar of companies and left at or sent by post to the address of which particulars had been filed.

The claim did not have to have any connection with the business of the branch, but service at or right under those provisions was subject to the jurisdiction of the court to order a stay on the ground of forum non conveniens.

The effect of the amendments to the 1985 Act introduced by the 1992 Regulations was that there were now two separate regimes for service of process on overseas companies carrying on business in Great Britain. The old law still applied to overseas companies with a place of business in Great Britain which was not a branch. A new regime applied to overseas companies which had a branch in Great Britain.

The words "in respect of carrying on of a business of the branch" were wide words. They were not limited, as they could have been, to words such as "only" or "exclusively".

They required the process to involve the business of the branch, but not, his Lordship thought, exclusively. It would be surprising if the legislature had gone so far in the case of companies with only an established place of business.

The process in the instant case was in respect of the carrying on of the business of the bank's London branch because it was partly in respect of that business. His Lordship did not think that that conclusion gave the present court an *exorbitant* jurisdiction. As with the old law, the court still had a jurisdiction to order a stay on the ground of forum non conveniens.

Solicitors: Lovell White Durrant; Herbert Smith.

# Criminal guidelines applicable to civil child interviews

**In re D (Minors) (Child Abuse: Interviews)**  
 Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Swinton Thomas and Lord Justice Chadwick  
 [Judgment February 26]

For the purposes of civil proceedings in the family context, although it was not strictly necessary to adhere to guidelines applicable in criminal trials involving the interviewing of children, those underlying principles were equally applicable to care or private family law cases.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in allowing an appeal brought by the father of children against whom a finding of sexual abuse had been made and a restraining order issued, against the court's order to order a stay on the ground of forum non conveniens.

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Solicitors: Lovell White Durrant; Herbert Smith.

**Good Practice on Video-recorded Interviews with Child Witnesses in Criminal Proceedings** (Home Office, 1993), social workers and other health professionals had been put on guard against prompting or leading children to provide information in such cases.

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Solicitors: Lovell White Durrant; Herbert Smith.

could trust the answers given. To remind a child of earlier answers and, for instance, to show a child earlier drawings to judge the child's recollection, had its own dangers as to the reliability of the answers then given.

Efficient video and/or audio recording of the question and answer sessions was most desirable and should always be put in place if it was available.

There would be cases, and some were referred to, where general guidelines were not followed and the evidence was none the less accepted, but such cases were unusual.

Social workers, in particular, had to consider the purpose of an interview and whether it was being conducted with a view to gathering evidence to protect the child or for separate therapeutic purposes where the restrictions upon prompting would not apply but the interview would not be for the purposes of court proceedings.

It was essential to distinguish between interviewing the child to assist the fact-finding interview to provide the child with help to unburden worries. The therapeutic interview seemed to her Ladyship to be generally unsuited to use as part of court evidence, although in rare cases there might be a necessity to do so.

Lord Justice Swinton Thomas and Lord Justice Chadwick agreed.

# Conviction safe despite omission

**Radford v Keat County Council**  
 Although a warning as to the consequences of not giving evidence under section 35(2) of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 was mandatory, where justices omitted to give the warning and did not draw an adverse inference, that omission did not render the verdict unsafe.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Bingham and Mr Justice Potts) so held on February 18, dismissing an appeal by way of case stated of David Gordon Radford from his conviction by Canterbury Justices on April 3, 1997, of possessing with the intention of selling, illicit recordings contrary to section 108(1)(c) of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

MR JUSTICE POTTS stated that in accordance with section 35(2) of the 1994 Act, the justices should be satisfied that the accused was aware of the implications of

not testifying. A failure to give a warning would normally render a verdict unsafe.

The appellant was represented by a solicitor who advised him of the effect of section 35(2) and he chose not to give evidence.

The justices' attention was not drawn to the provisions of section 35(2) and so they drew no inferences from the failure of the appellant to give evidence. The conviction was therefore not unsafe.

prove but he submitted that such wider obligations would only apply once the landlord knew of the disturbance caused by noise and was therefore no more than to keep in step, between leasehold and modern soundproofing standards.

Mr Broach had invited his Lordship to treat *Sampson v Baxter* as decided per incuriam or to confine them to their own facts, urging, inter alia, that in *Sampson v Baxter* the court had not been referred to *Jenkins v Jackson*, *Robinson v Kilvert* or the decision of the Court of Appeal in *Maly v Eitelholz* [1916] 2 KB 305 and *Mania v National Provincial Bank Ltd* [1932] 2 All ER 633.

His Lordship did not read either of the last named as central to the issues in *Sampson v Baxter*. *Baxter* had been argued by leading and junior counsel, including Mr Broach's authority, in *Jenkins v Jackson*, *Robinson v Kilvert* or the decision of the Court of Appeal in *Maly v Eitelholz* [1916] 2 KB 305 and *Mania v National Provincial Bank Ltd* [1932] 2 All ER 633.

As Lord Simon of Glaisdale had observed in *Millington v Frank (Teatles)* [1976] AC 443, 477: "A previous decision of the same appellate court is not binding if it is given . . . in inadvertence to some authority apparently binding on the court . . . and, secondly, that if the court . . . had been advised to such authority, it would have . . . applied the authority."

If the scope of the covenant for quiet enjoyment was to be returned to that which found favour with Mr Justice Kekewich in *Jenkins v Jackson*, that was a matter for a higher court than his Lordship's. Solicitors: M/s Lye & Keen, Southwark; Anthony Gold Lerman & Murrhead.

## LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

### LEGAL NOTICES

**MICRO-BIOLOGICALS (OVERSEAS) LIMITED**  
 Notice is hereby given under Section 694A of the Companies Act 1985 that a meeting of the shareholders of Micro-Biologicals (Overseas) Limited will be held at the offices of EDO City Harcourt, 25th Floor, 25 Abchurch Lane, London EC4A 3DF on 16 March 1998 at 10.00 am for the purpose of considering and voting on the proposed amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the company as set out in the explanatory statement of the directors of the company which is enclosed with this notice and is available for inspection at the offices of EDO City Harcourt, 25th Floor, 25 Abchurch Lane, London EC4A 3DF from 10.00 am on 16 March 1998 until 10.00 am on 17 March 1998. A list of the names and addresses of the persons entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is available for inspection at the offices of EDO City Harcourt, 25th Floor, 25 Abchurch Lane, London EC4A 3DF from 10.00 am on 16 March 1998 until 10.00 am on 17 March 1998. A copy of the explanatory statement of the directors of the company is available for inspection at the offices of EDO City Harcourt, 25th Floor, 25 Abchurch Lane, London EC4A 3DF from 10.00 am on 16 March 1998 until 10.00 am on 17 March 1998. A copy of the explanatory statement of the directors of the company is available for inspection at the offices of EDO City Harcourt, 25th Floor, 25 Abchurch Lane, London EC4A 3DF from 10.00 am on 16 March 1998 until 10.00 am on 17 March 1998.

### PUBLIC NOTICES

**ENVIRONMENT AGENCY**  
 Notice is hereby given that the Environment Agency intends to apply after the 22nd of April 1998 to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretary of State for Wales for the confirmation of orders made under the Water Resources Act 1989 as amended by the Environment Act 1985 in relation to:

- The prohibition of the use of crayfish as bait in connection with fishing with rod and line for salmon, trout, freshwater fish or eels in all waters across all regions of the Agency.
- The requirement for other goods to be fitted to all fish traps and sea traps (except punts) with an entrance greater than 95mm, in all inland and tidal waters across all regions of the Agency.
- The creation of a consistent Byelaw regulating:
  - removal of fish by means other than rod and line;
  - removal of fish by rod and line across all regions of the Agency.
- The creation of a consistent catch return Byelaw for eels caught by any instrument other than rod and line, across all regions of the Agency.
- The requirement for fishing rods to be attended at all times while fishing, across all regions of the Agency.
- Provision of exemption from national Byelaw requirements for Agency employees acting in official capacity or with written Agency permission, for scientific or fisheries management purposes.
- The revocation of existing Byelaws regulating trolling and trailing in Anglian, Midlands and Thames Regions.
- The revocation of an existing Byelaw regulating minimum rod length in South West Region.
- The removal of the coarse fish close season on waters within two SSSIs designated under the schedule to the coarse fish close season Byelaws.

Copies of the Byelaws have been deposited at the offices of the Agency at the addresses shown here and will be open to inspection free of charge from Monday to Friday during normal office hours from the date of publication of this notice until the 22nd April 1998. During the same period copies of the Byelaws will be supplied by these offices on demand free of charge to any person. Any person who wishes to object to the confirmation of the above Byelaws must send a statement of their objection in writing to The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Room 308, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR or to Mr G. Pogson, Water Officer, Agriculture Department, GC, Catfords Park, Cardiff CF11 3NG to be received no later than 22nd April 1998 and must send a copy of the statement of objection to The Fisheries Officer, Environment Agency, Rio House, Waterside Drive, Acton West, Almondsbury, Bristol BS32 4LD.

### LEGAL NOTICES

**THE LANDROVER AC 1996**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 96 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that the Liquidator of the above named company has received a copy of the proposed voluntary arrangement for the company from the debtor. A copy of the proposed voluntary arrangement is available for inspection at the offices of the Liquidator, 25 Abchurch Lane, London EC4A 3DF from 10.00 am on 16 March 1998 until 10.00 am on 17 March 1998. A copy of the proposed voluntary arrangement is available for inspection at the offices of the Liquidator, 25 Abchurch Lane, London EC4A 3DF from 10.00 am on 16 March 1998 until 10.00 am on 17 March 1998.

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**LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES**

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE

0171-680 6878 OR  
 FAX: 0171-481 9313

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

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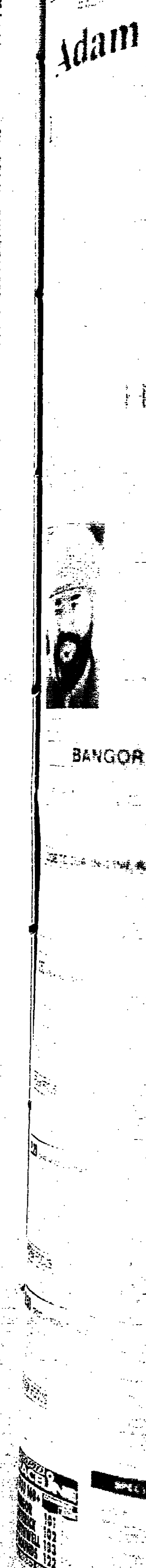
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RACING: BORDERS TRAINER SETS SIGHTS ON CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL GLORY

Adam makes most of his forte

By CHRIS McGRATH

It is almost as though this Adam has found his way back to Eden. For many years, he shared the mundane...

As the trainer of ten of his own racehorses in the Scottish borders, James Adam will know the best of being alive if Monnaie Forte wins at the Cheltenham Festival next week.

Adam made his fortune in smoked salmon. "When I sold out in 1993, ours was the most profitable operation in Europe," he said.



Adam: early success

thumping hanger to follow. Witness Sandown in January, when Adam effectively introduced himself to the racing public...

He no more resembles a shrewd businessman than he did a scholar of Roman jurisprudence to front-row opponents, back in his Oxford rugby days.

Here is someone large as life, though next for the small trainer, the "little man" (it is one of the Festival's defining charms that a Welsh sheep farmer can make off with the Gold Cup itself, as when Norton's Coin won at 100-1 in 1990).

Monnaie Forte, who confuses the Midway of Flete Chase a week today, plays his part in the caricature of wild riders from Berwickshire. "He's a real extrovert," Adam said.

"It was Brendan who said that we should challenge him over the railway fences at Sandown. He has such confidence in him and has given



Monnaie Forte aims for the Midway of Flete Chase at Cheltenham a week today

him confidence of his own. In fact, I feel guilty taking any credit, when he and Stan Wallsgrove do all the real work. I was very lucky to get Stan, who is, in the most positive sense, a proper, old-fashioned head man - a genius.

Wallsgrove was formerly with Andrew Turzell, the Lambourn trainer with whom Adam had horses before he sold the smokehouse. It was

Turzell, indeed, who bought Monnaie Forte, "while I lay on a beach on Cape Cod."

Since getting his act together, the horse has romped home at Sandown and twice at Ayr. Though testing conditions confounded him at Haydock last time, he still pulled clear of the third in the pursuit of the Ebor. Now, like the leathered green horse, which rode like porridge," Adam said. "He's a typical Stang Gaid and can't

show his true merit on anything other than good. He's so gutsy, though, that he still ran a blinder."

Adam, raised in Worcestershire, was first taken to the Festival by his father in 1951, to see Silver Fame win the Gold Cup. When your hearts go on fire, as the song goes, smoke gets in your eyes. And if the smoke was, for years, rather too literal, the flame never went out.

Scheme to protect punters

By RICHARD EVANS AND CHRIS McGRATH

THE Government is considering whether uncollected winning bets - estimated to be worth £2 million a year - could fund a new consumers body for punters. The idea has been taken on board by George Howarth, the Home Office minister responsible for gambling, as the bookmaking industry also examines ways of improving regulation of its industry.

"A punters protection bureau could work with organisations like The Sporting Life's Green Seal service and could offer consumers the same kind of protection any other customer in the high street enjoys," one Government insider said yesterday.

Disgruntled punters often find it difficult to gain satisfaction from Cardiff, is still seeking a payment of £250,000, which he claims he won in a bet with Coral in September 1996.

The bookmaking industry would like to see stiffer tests - including financial - before applicants are granted

ed bookmaking licences by magistrates. When Peter Jones became chairman of the Tote last summer, a change in tone was eagerly anticipated - but yesterday came evidence that the Tote has progressed in substance as well as in style.

The most valuable prize remains the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup, which is run a week tomorrow; next year's running will have added prize-money of £275,000, followed by the Tote Ebor at York, which is £165,000 guaranteed.

The most startling element of the programme, however, is the £150,000-guaranteed Tote International Handicap at Ascot on August 8. As its name suggests, the new seven-furlong race will be framed with an overseas challenge in mind.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Wishing William (3.50 Bangor) Wishing William is progressing well and this highly-rated chaser can take advantage of a lenient handicapper mark on his favoured gelding to record a third victory of the season.

NB: Kadou Nonantais (1.50 Bangor)

CATTERICK

THUNDERER 2.00 Forehorse Man, 2.30 Members Welcome, 3.00 Tweedwood, 3.30 Crabbie's Pride, 4.00 Moving Out, 4.30 Tudor Fellow, 5.00 Kilegrange.

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.30 CRABBIE'S PRIDE.

Carl Evans: 4.00 Moving Out.

GOING: SOFT (GOOD IN PLACES)

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.00 HORNY NOVICES HURDLE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 2.00 Horny Novices Hurdle.

2.30 WEARDALE SELLING HURDLE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 2.30 Weardale Selling Hurdle.

3.00 PETER VALLEY MEMORIAL TROPHY HURDLE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 3.00 Peter Valley Memorial Trophy Hurdle.

4.00 RABY NOVICES HUNTERS CHASE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 4.00 Raby Novices Hunters Chase.

4.30 NEWBY NOVICES HURDLE CHASE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 4.30 Newby Novices Hurdle Chase.

5.00 TESSIDE INTERMEDIATE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLY RACE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 5.00 Tesside Intermediate Open National Hunt Fly Race.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER 1.40 Gold Clipper, 2.10 Sidney The Kidney, 2.40 Greenspan, 3.10 Ajnad, 3.40 Bagamuffin Falco, 4.10 Joe Ag, 4.40 She's A Gem, 5.10 Somdar.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

SIS

1.40 HERON MAIDEN HANDICAP

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 1.40 Heron Maiden Handicap.

2.10 HERON MAIDEN HANDICAP

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 2.10 Heron Maiden Handicap.

2.40 SWAN CLAIMING STAKES

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 2.40 Swan Claiming Stakes.

3.10 RAVEN HANDICAP

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 3.10 Raven Handicap.

3.40 PIGEON APPRENTICES HANDICAP

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 3.40 Pigeon Apprentices Handicap.

4.10 JAY SELLING STAKES

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 4.10 Jay Selling Stakes.

4.40 PEACOCK HANDICAP

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 4.40 Peacock Handicap.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

Table listing course specialists and their horses.

THUNDERER

Table with horse names and odds for the Thunderer section.

GUIDE TO OUR RACING TABLES

100 119143 8000 TIMES 13 (OFF F.A.S.) (Plan D) (Ratios) 8 Hat 10-0 B West (7) 88

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

SIS

1.50 CHIRK NOVICES HURDLE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 1.50 Chirk Novices Hurdle.

2.20 CHIRK NOVICES HURDLE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 2.20 Chirk Novices Hurdle.

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Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 2.20 Chirk Novices Hurdle.

2.50 CROXTON NOVICES CHASE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 2.50 Croxton Novices Chase.

2.50 CROXTON NOVICES CHASE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 2.50 Croxton Novices Chase.

3.20 WRECHAM LVA HANDICAP CHASE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 3.20 Wrecham LVA Handicap Chase.

3.50 HOLYWELL HANDICAP CHASE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 3.50 Holywell Handicap Chase.

3.20 WRECHAM LVA HANDICAP CHASE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 3.20 Wrecham LVA Handicap Chase.

3.50 HOLYWELL HANDICAP CHASE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 3.50 Holywell Handicap Chase.

4.20 HUGH FEELE CHALLENGE TROPHY HUNTERS CHASE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 4.20 Hugh Feele Challenge Trophy Hunters Chase.

4.50 SANDY LANE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 4.50 Sandy Lane Novices Handicap Hurdle.

4.50 SANDY LANE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 4.50 Sandy Lane Novices Handicap Hurdle.

5.00 SANDY LANE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

Table with horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 5.00 Sandy Lane Novices Handicap Hurdle.

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YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Exeter

Table with horse names and odds for Exeter results.

Leicester

Table with horse names and odds for Leicester results.

Sedgefield

Table with horse names and odds for Sedgefield results.

Specialists

Table with horse names and odds for Specialists results.

RACELINE advertisement with phone number 0930 1684 and website URL.

BANGOR CATERICK & HOUNDS advertisement for racing results and services.

COURSE SPECIALISTS advertisement listing various racing courses and specialists.

Additional racing results and information for various courses.



CRICKET

# Dearth of young talent apparent for West Indies

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS

NOTHING could have illustrated the insidious decline of West Indies cricket more than the fifth Test match against England that starts here tomorrow. In seeking to reinforce a batting order that cracks as alarmingly as the opposition's, the home selectors did not turn to youth and potential, for they could find none of acceptable quality.

Instead, they came up with two burly biffers whose international careers began and almost ended half a dozen years ago. Clayton Lambert and Philo Wallace are fine entertainers with the bat, but they do not represent the future.

England, adrift in the series, remain confident that they can achieve parity at least. The bowlers fancy their chances against both newcomers, and their introduction has shifted the age comparison. West Indies, unusually, now have an older team than England.

The likely sides tomorrow will include ten players past their thirtieth birthdays, seven of them playing for West Indies. There is little difference in average ages — West Indies' will be 30.1 and England's 29.3 — but with the

recent recalls of Lambert and David Williams, and the reliance on Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh, West Indies are very short of young legs.

In the batting department, competition is poor and those younger batsmen taken on A-team and under-19 tours this winter have not impressed. In time, the Jamaicans, Leon Clarke and Wavell Hinds, and the teenage Guyanese, Ramnarath Sarwan, may break through, but for the here-and-now priority of winning a series, the selectors have had to look back.

The fast bowling is more of a puzzle. When the series began, Mervyn Dillon, 23, and Franklyn Rose, 25, were identified as the quick men of the future: the pair who would support and then usurp Ambrose and Walsh. Both were included in the party for the first Test, at Sabina Park, but did not make the eventual XI.

Since then, despite proving their fitness in domestic cricket, neither has featured and, after a brief and barren recall for one thirtysomething, Kenny Benjamin, faith is being shown in another, Ian Bishop. In Georgetown, with conditions to suit him, Bishop took only one wicket and bowled

with woeful indiscipline. He seems sure to get another game here, alongside the admittedly young and brisk, but thus far inaccurate, Nixon McLean.

Bishop, however, is a strong, capable No 8 and gives some substance to an otherwise submissive rail, especially as the wicketkeeper, Williams, seems to have exhausted his runs and luck for the series in that one, decisive innings in Port of Spain.

Williams' position must surely have been debated at selection, too, for he has kept every bit as untidily as Jack Russell and there is an obvious replacement in Ricky Hoyte, of Barbados, who has twice kept wicket and batted impressively against England.

So the only beneficiaries of the latest round of local campaigns and cruises are Lambert and Wallace, the only casualties Sherwin Campbell and Stuart Williams. The news came through as Barbados left the field for tea on Monday during their drawn match against England, the captain, Wallace, receiving news of his second Test cap in place of Campbell, his long-time opening partner and former classmate.

Wallace has always been known as a big hitter and a firebrand. He claims to have matured in both areas. Once suspended for a season for inciting a crowd to riot during a club match, then heavily fined for smashing down a set of stumps with his bat, his milder temperament is reflected in the award of the island captaincy.

His technique, he says, has improved through hours spent in a friend's garage, pushing forward against a ball hung on a string. Instinctively, though, he remains a dasher, as does his new partner, Lambert has a fine domestic record and a habit of making hundreds at Kensington. He also has something of a girl's and, at 36, is the oldest man on either side.



Steve Waugh looks disbelievingly down the pitch after being given out by Sharp, caught at short leg off Raju Venkataraghavan.

## Australia caught at the sharp end

By SIMON WILDE

AUSTRALIA could have come up with various excuses for their 179-run defeat by India in the first Test in Madras yesterday, but Mark Taylor, the captain, opted to take the reverse on the chin and address how his side can come back in the two remaining games and extend their sequence of victorious Test series to ten. It will take some doing.

Privately, though, Australian thoughts may indeed have dwelt on the "extenuating" circumstances: the loss of the toss on a typically slow, turning Indian pitch, their weakened new-ball attack and some questionable umpiring in the first session yesterday in which — to make matters worse — the hand of a Pom, George Sharp, was prominent.

Australia began the final day in trouble at 31 for three but by lunch were effectively beaten at 96 for seven. All four dismissals aroused debate —

three were given by Sharp — and only a brisk eighth-wicket stand of 57 between Healy and Warne delayed the end until 45 minutes before tea.

"I don't think umpiring can decide the fate of a match," Taylor said. "We should have got three or four Indian second-innings wickets early. That would have given us the game... I don't think our top order played spin well."

The problem for Australia is that, as Azharuddin, the India captain, pointed out, the home side probably possesses the attack best suited to the conditions, as has often been

the case during Australia's visits to the sub-continent, which partly explains their atrocious record there.

They last won a Test match in India or Pakistan in December 1969, since when they have lost ten, drawn 12 and tied one. Their last series defeat was in Pakistan in 1994.

Things started to go wrong for Australia after 45 minutes yesterday, when Mark Waugh was given out caught at short leg off Kumble. Television replays suggested that the ball came off the pad and that the umpire, Srinivas

Venkataraghavan, had made a mistake. Waugh stood his ground before leaving.

Then, in the half-hour before lunch, Sharp gave three decisions in favour of Raju. Reiffel was adjudged caught at gully and Steve Waugh caught at short leg. In both cases, there was a suggestion that the ball might have come off boot rather than bat.

Between times, Ponting was given leg-before to a ball that may have pitched outside leg stump.

Sharp, a former Northamptonshire wicketkeeper, joined the international panel two years ago. In his first overseas Test, in Ahmedabad last winter, he and S.K. Bansai attracted criticism for awarding 13 leg-before decisions, but his two Test appearances in England drew general praise.

Chauhan dismissed Warne and Robertson with successive balls but was prevented from finishing the match with a hat-trick by Kasprovic.

### MADRAS SCOREBOARD

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| INDIA: First Innings 257 (N S Sachu 62, M R Mongia 58, R Dravid 52). Second Innings 418 (S R Tendulkar 155 not out, Sachu 64, M Azharuddin 64, Dravid 56) |  | 1 J A Healy not out ... 32   |  |
| AUSTRALIA: First Innings 226 (R A Healy 90, M E Waugh 66, G R Robertson 57)   |  | 2 S K Warne c Kumble b Chauhan ... 36  |  |
| Second Innings  |  | 3 G R Robertson b Chauhan ... 0  |  |
| M J Slater b Srinivas ... 13  |  | 4 M S Kasprovic c Srinivas b Kumble ... 4  |  |
| M A Taylor c Srinivas b Kumble ... 13   |  | Edwards (No 4, 10, 2, 3, 4) ... 11   |  |
| G S Bellwell c Dravid b Kumble ... 9  |  | Total ... 188  |  |
| P B Hirst c Azharuddin b Raju ... 8   |  | FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-30, 3-31, 4-54, 5-73, 6-91, 7-98, 8-153, 9-153                      |  |
| M E Waugh c Dravid b Kumble ... 19  |  | SCORING: Srinivas 64-9-1; Warne 2-0-40-4; Chauhan 22-7-68-5; Kumble 22-2-46-4; Raju 15-31-3. |  |
| S R Waugh c Dravid b Raju ... 27  |  | Man of the match: S R Tendulkar  |  |
| R T Ponting bowled by Raju ... 2  |  | Umpires: S Venkataraghavan (India) and G Sharp (England)                                     |  |

## Middlesex consider moving to the Oval

MIDDLESEX are considering asking Surrey to let them play at the Oval if they reach the NatWest Trophy semi-finals this summer and are given a home tie (Simon Wilde writes). The county has been told by MCC that Lord's is unavailable on August 11 and 12 — the dates of the semi-finals — because of the one-day triangular tournament involving England, South Africa and Sri Lanka that starts that week.

Middlesex have discussed asking Surrey for help because their options would

be few: their only other regular venue is the Uxbridge ground, which has a capacity of 5,000. "Our members might not be happy about the idea of us playing across the river," but the alternative is to go somewhere like Uxbridge and restrict the crowd, which we might be able to attract 15,000 if we drew teams like Surrey, Essex or Warwickshire," Eddie Coddington, the Middlesex secretary, said.

Paul Sheldon, the Surrey chief executive, said: "We would look at a request sympathetically."

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

When you play a good grand slam in game, there are usually faults on both sides of the table. That was the case on the following hand from the 1997 Premier League.

|                                      |                                    |      |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------|
| Dealer North                         | North-South game                   | IMPs |
| ♠ KQJ3<br>♥ K9<br>♦ AKQ865<br>♣ J    | ♠ 1082<br>♥ J62<br>♦ 974<br>♣ 8842 |      |
| ♠ 9754<br>♥ Q7543<br>♦ J3<br>♣ KQ    | ♠ 1082<br>♥ J62<br>♦ 974<br>♣ 8842 |      |
| ♠ A8<br>♥ A108<br>♦ 102<br>♣ A109753 |                                    |      |

Contract: Three No-Trumps by South. Lead: Four of hearts

This was the undistinguished auction when I was North and Brian Senior South. With Two Diamonds not being available as an Acol Two (that is almost extinct at the top of the tournament world nowadays), at some other tables North opened Two Clubs. However, I think One Diamond is best. It is unlikely to be passed out, and enables North to get in both suits at a reasonable level. A sequence that starts Two Clubs — Two Diamonds — Three Diamonds is already uncomfortably high.

After the Two Club response, my reverse bid of Two Spades was forcing to game. So it was quite safe for South to show a decent club suit, and then I was able to show my excellent diamonds by rebidding them. At this point, the trouble started. First, with three aces, I think South is too

good to rebid Three No-Trumps. Either a diamond raise or a Three Heart probe looks better. Secondly, with my good playing strength, I am worth another move over Three No-Trumps. A raise to Four No-Trumps (quantitative) is best. Although that might have pushed us overboard facing, say ♠82♥QJ84♦2♣AK9753, my hand was too good to call it a day at Three No-Trumps.

The players who successfully bid Seven Diamonds had an auction in which South admitted to diamond tolerance rather than bidding Three No-Trumps. Then, North could wheel out Blackwood and bid the grand slam.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

## KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Anand's Triumph

Vishwanathan Anand, the Indian grandmaster, has won the world's highest ranked tournament in Linares, Spain, finishing ahead of other top players including the world champion Garry Kasparov. This victory by Anand will prove embarrassing to Kasparov in particular since Anand was the defeated challenger in the Fide (World Chess Federation) Championship match held at Lausanne early in January. The winner of that match and successful defender of the Fide title was Anatoly Karpov, who did not receive an invitation to Linares.

The imaginative Latvian grandmaster, Alexei Shirov (who now represents Spain) also had the result of his life, finishing clear second.

White: Alexei Shirov  
Black: Vladimir Kramnik  
Linares 1998

Roy Lopez

1 e4 e5  
2 Nf3 Nc6  
3 Bb5 Nf8  
4 O-O Nbd4  
5 d4 Be7  
6 dxe5 O-O  
7 Re1 d5  
8 exd6 Bxd6  
9 Nbd2 Bf5  
10 Nc4 Bb4  
11 c3 Cxd1  
12 Rxd1 Bc5  
13 Be3 Ne7

|          |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Anand    | 1.5 | 0.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 7% |
| Shirov   | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 7% |
| Kramnik  | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 6% |
| Swidler  | 0.5 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 5% |
| Ivanchuk | 2.0 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 0.1 | 0.5 | 5% |
| Topalov  | 2.0 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 4% |

In the above table, 1 represents a win, ½ a draw and 0 a loss.

White to play. This position is from the game Nijboer — Piket, Wijk aan Zee, 1998. Here is a clever finish from the tournament in which Kramnik and Anand (Nos 2 and 3 in the world) finished equal first. How did White force immediate resignation?

## AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER THE TIMES

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THE TIMES Mr Punch Audio Tapes TOKEN 3

Answers on page 38

Solution on page 38

## De Villiers concludes Test career in style

FROM IVO TENNANT IN PORT ELIZABETH

PORT ELIZABETH (final day of five): South Africa beat Pakistan by 259 runs

SOUTH Africa, or rather Alan Donald and Graeme de Villiers, needed just 25 minutes of the final day to take the three remaining Pakistan wickets. The three-match series thus finished drawn. This was the right outcome, for there was little between the sides from the outset.

Pakistan are quite unattractive. Their cricket in this match was as feeble as it was diverting in the second Test at Durban. Rashid Latif chose to disrupt a winning side by making his first appearance of the series, to put South Africa in, erroneously, and to record a pair. He bizarrely explained that the rain-affected second day had made his players too relaxed.

Pakistan departed last night for Zimbabwe. Latif insisting that he will continue to captain the side. Wasim Akram, who arrived here only in time for the final Test, will be going with them.

South Africa impressed in the field yesterday. Waqar Younis was caught behind off Donald, which gave Boucher his ninth dismissal of the match, equalling David Richardson's South Africa record. Azhar Mahmood mishooked to the fielder placed just backward of square for that very shot. De Villiers, appropriately, took the last wicket in his final Test, yorking Shoab Akhtar and ensuring the leg stump he uprooted was his to keep.

South Africa: First Innings 262 (J. J. Coetzee 85, M. Boucher 52, W. Younis 47, R. Latif 47, G. de Villiers 47 for 78). Second Innings 206 for 7 (S. Latif 69, Waqar Younis 47 for 55). PAKISTAN: First Innings 106 (P. S. de Vries 6 for 23).

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Second Innings                   |     |
| Saeed Anwar c Kallis b Donald    | 15  |
| Ijaz Ahmed bowled by De Villiers | 15  |
| Muhammad-Haq b Boucher b Adams   | 7   |
| Moin Khan bowled by Donald       | 5   |
| Waqar Younis c Boucher b Donald  | 5   |
| Azhar Mahmood c Kallis b Donald  | 4   |
| Agar Singh bowled by Adams       | 2   |
| Rashid Latif c Kallis b Adams    | 2   |
| Shoaib Akhtar b Donald           | 2   |
| Muhammad Anwar not out           | 1   |
| Extras                           | 0   |
| Total                            | 134 |

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-47, 3-70, 4-75, 5-91, 6-92, 7-101, 8-120, 9-133

SCORING: Donald 15-4-27-4, Pollock 17-2-45-1, De Villiers 12-5-25-2, Adams 16-6-36-3

Umpires: S R Duran (New Zealand) and R E Koertzen (South Africa)

Alix Ramsay in California sees two former Wimbledon champions continue their comebacks

# Graf's graft begins to bring reward

# New-age Agassi shaping up for starring role

So far, so good. For someone who has won 103 career singles titles — 21 in grand-slam events — an appearance in the quarter-finals of the State Farm Evert Cup does not sound like much to write home about, but, for Steffi Graf, it will do for now. The road to fitness has been travelled successfully, if painfully, and now it is just a matter of getting the mind and the body to work in unison when the chips are down.

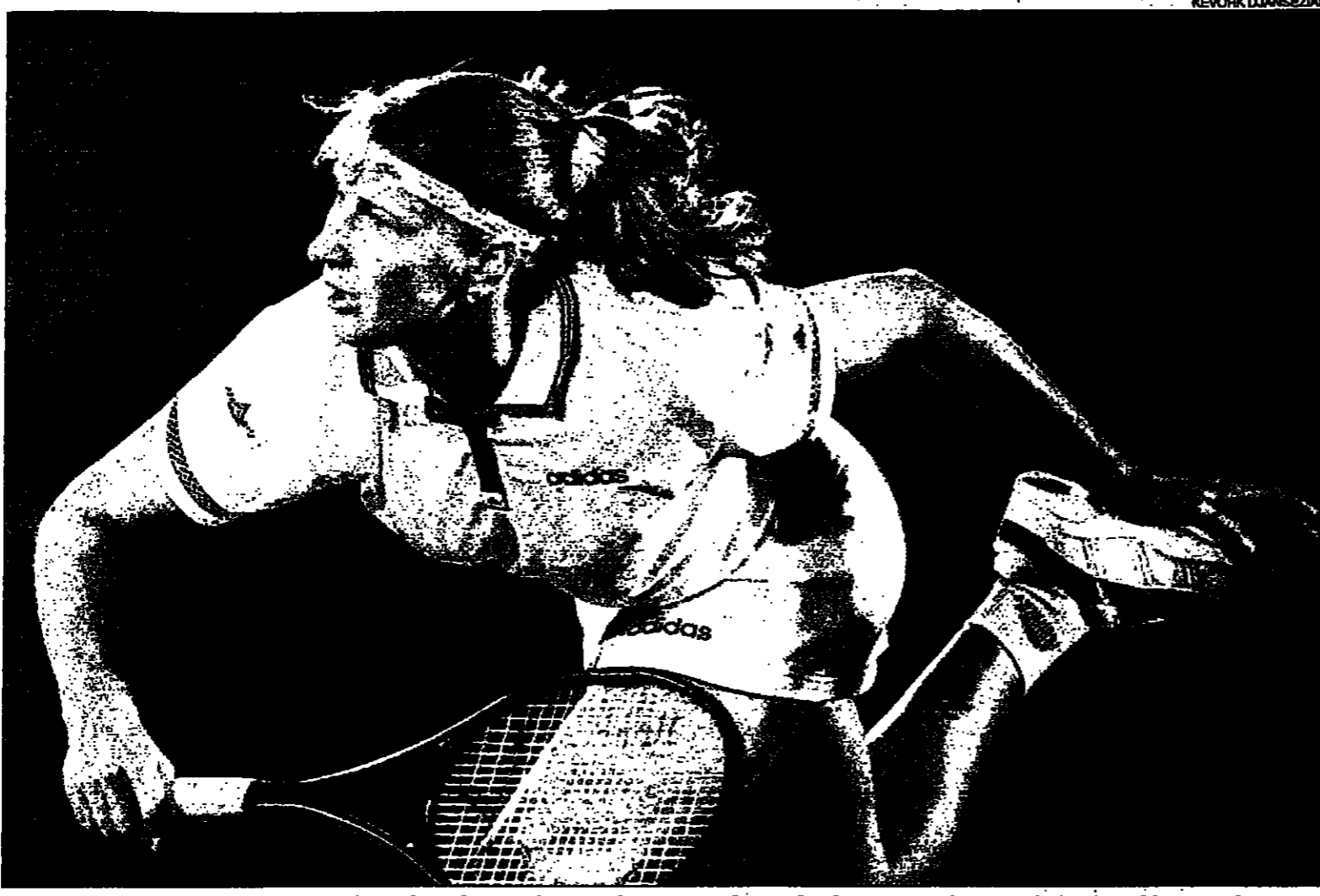
Certainly, the two were in perfect harmony on Monday night as she sped through her third-round encounter with Ai Sugiyama here in Indian Wells, winning 6-0, 6-1. The first set was over in a 15-minute flurry of forehands while the whole match lasted a mere 43 minutes. It was just what the doctor ordered.

All things considered, she is happy to be back at only her second tournament in nine months after knee surgery last June. "It's been interesting and a good experience," Graf said with a smile. For a woman best known as evasive when it comes to dealing with the press, she is in fine fettle. She laughs, she smiles — a case of so far, definitely so good.

There are only a few traces of the injury left. She holds a precautionary ice-bag over the left knee as she talks after practice, but she feels that the freedom of movement is returning. In fact, her biggest problem is stage fright. She never realised how nervous she would be before her first match in Hanover and even now she is still less than confident. "Sure, you tend to get nervous sometimes, that's natural, but never like this, never for so long," she said.

The path back to tennis has been fraught with problems over the months, both emotional and physical. The official description of the injury was a torn cartilage and partial rupture of the patella tendon; unofficially, it could have meant the end of everything Graf holds dear.

"I didn't know how well the operation would work," she said. "The doctor couldn't tell me. Even afterwards I still had to prove to myself that I could do what I wanted, even to walk upstairs. Then it takes a long time to build up the muscle, especially for me, and I had to make sure I didn't overdo it."



Graf serves during her third-round match against Sugiyama. The German dropped only one game in a match that lasted just 43 minutes

Even so, it took a long time before she knew she would be able to come back to the circuit. One of the lowest points came at the US Open last September. She had been invited to attend the opening ceremony of the new Stadium Court, but found that it was the last place on earth she wanted to be.

"I felt too far away from it all," she said. "It didn't feel right to be there. Looking back, it was probably a case of being afraid. I knew there would be so many questions and I didn't know the answers. It was difficult to confront that. I suppose it is normal in a way, when you don't know what you will do, not to want to face questions at that time."

The last couple of years have given Graf more cause than most to ponder her future. Apart from the off-court problems with the German tax

authorities, she has had to deal with a series of serious injuries. Each time she has been away she has realised how much her sport means to her. "For me, it is just to play at a certain level — that's what it's all about. To get that perfect feeling that you've done the best you can."

**'I want to play at a certain level. That's what it's all about — to get that perfect feeling that I've done the best I can'**

Being such a perfectionist has not helped her rehabilitation. "I am not a patient person," she said, "and when you know what you were able to do, you still have that expectation of yourself. But it takes time. Sometimes I am asking a little bit too much of myself and that can hold me back a little."

There were bonuses while she was away. A very private person, Graf enjoyed being out of the spotlight, at least initially. "I have always been somebody who needs my home, my dogs, my friends and, in the beginning, I had a really good time. But, in the end, the rehab gets to you."

To be away from the constant glare of the media was a relief. She has a strange love-hate relationship with the press, not made any easier by her private life making bigger headlines than her tennis. And while she likes publicity, she hates intrusion. "It's very difficult to accept it, what's written, the way things have been

handled," she said. "It was good to be away from all of it. Now I am back and I know it is part of it all, I am all right. But at first you need time to adjust."

And she is back. Lindsay Davenport, the defending champion here, watched Graf practising and concluded:

"She's here all right. I'll have to play well to win this again." Not that Graf feels she has anything to prove to anyone, least of all the young stars who have revelled in the limelight since her departure. "It's not in my mind at all," she said. "It's not that I want to win against Martina [Hingis], just to show that I can still do

it. I just want to play. I don't care if they are young or old. It's exciting to see new faces, especially for me. I started with Martina [Navratilova] and Tracy Austin and Chris Evert — I've been through a lot of eras and that's exciting to see."

The next name to conjure with is Natasha Zvereva in the quarter-finals. A win would be nice, defeat will be dealt with if necessary. But for the self-confident, impatient perfectionist, there are signs that she is a little mellower than before. Battling with her fitness and her forehead on the practice courts for months on end, she would return home in less than good humour. "And then I would see my dogs waiting for me by the front door and it was all forgotten. So you see, there are some things out there that please me and make me very happy."

IT WAS not exactly High Noon in the desert, but in a resort town that looks remarkably like a film set — sun, sand and palm trees surrounded by snow-capped mountains — Andre Agassi stuck to the script to win his first-round match at the Newsweek Champions Cup here in Indian Wells. It was not a classic performance but it was just enough to deal with Todd Woodbridge 7-6, 6-4 and extend Agassi's winning streak to 11 matches.

Agassi has always been an enigma, at times infuriatingly so, but even by his standards his comeback this year defies belief. By the end of last year, his ranking had slipped to No 14 and it seemed as if the end was nigh. Surely not even he could repair the damage to his confidence and form.

But Agassi is not like other players and, while the main contenders were doing battle at the ATP Tour world championships in Hanover, Agassi was plying his trade at the Las Vegas challenger. Come the Davis Cup final, a competition that he had helped the United States to win three times, he was in California at the Burbank challenger with all the other hopefuls trying to get a break on the circuit.

Now he has come to California again, with his ranking raised to No 40 and two titles to his name already this year. In San Jose and after a straight-sets win over Jason Stoltenberg on Sunday, in Scottsdale, Arizona, the satisfaction he has gained from the success has brought him even greater pleasure than winning the Olympic gold medal in Atlanta two years ago. "There, I was struggling on the court, getting angry with myself," he said. "This is new. I'm out there, not just focused but looking forward to it."

It was hard work against Woodbridge on Monday, but that was just what Agassi had expected and needed to get used to the conditions here and earn himself a day off later in the week. Hard graft is the order of the day for the man who, in his prime, used to "breeze" into tournaments with the minimum of prepara-

tion and then wipe the floor with the opposition. "I wish I could tell you something different, but it's been nothing short of hard work," he said. "It wasn't easy to get back in shape, but I played a lot of tennis, did a lot of weights and stopped taking it out on the knife and fork."

He now plays Sergi Bruguera, the No 14 seed, who launched a comeback of his own last year. Bruguera defeated Julian Alfonso 7-6, 6-3 in the first round.

Like Agassi, the reports of Thomas Muster's imminent demise have been exaggerated. Claims from Rudolf Schabas, the Austria Davis



Agassi: enigmatic

Cup team doctor, that Muster should retire immediately to avoid crippling himself for life, looked a little out of touch when the "invalid" marched past Chris Woodruff 6-4, 6-4. Muster now meets Cedric Pioline, the No 15 seed, who put out Marc Rosset on Monday night.

Two seeds fell by the wayside early when the No 10, Gustavo Kuerten, the French Open champion, lost to Nicolas Pietrangeli 6-4, 6-7, 6-2. Felix Mantilla, seeded No 13, was next to go, losing to his fellow Spaniard, Albert Costa, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Goran Ivanisevic's miserable run continued when he threw away an early service break to Andrei Medvedev, losing 7-6, 2-6, 7-6, but he still has something to keep his interest in this tournament as he is playing in the doubles with Tim Henman.

## BADMINTON: MOTHERHOOD NO BAR TO SUCCESS FOR FORMER CHAMPION

# Goode progress with separate lives

Richard Eaton on a leading player trying to get the best of two worlds

Joanne Goode is the only mother in professional badminton with the ability to challenge for the leading titles. But, despite being a recent All-England champion, she has had to qualify for the world's oldest and best-known tournament that started at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham yesterday.

As Joanne Wright, she won the England mixed doubles title with Nick Ponting in 1994. Two years later, she married the British Olympic manager, Andy Goode, immediately after the Games in Atlanta in August 1996.

Shortly after, Britain's finest all-round doubles player became pregnant and quickly lost her top-five place in the women's doubles and mixed doubles world rankings. There were murmurs that her career was over.

However, Goode was certain that motherhood and top-level competition could still go together and indicated her attitude immediately. Bulkier and less mobile though she obviously was, she became, in February last year, the first player to win a national title while 4½ months pregnant.

"Mentally, I felt little different," she said after the capture of a mixed doubles title that



Goode is managing successfully to combine her twin roles, relaxing with Jack, seven months, and playing at the All-England Championships yesterday.

catapulted her on to the front pages. Now, after the birth of her son, Jack, her mind is set the same way.

"I wouldn't come back if I thought I was only going to be a mediocre player," she said. "I still don't feel quite as good on court as I did, but I think I will." She undoubtedly has the desire and is still only 25.

Remarkably, her schedule is almost as full as ever — the All-England, the Europeans, the big Far East events and the Uber Cup world team finals. Mention of the Uber Cup reminds the Goodes of a controversy that affected both deeply. Joanne Goode, Simon

Archer and Julie Bradbury declined to play for England in the world team finals to concentrate on trying to win Britain's first Olympic badminton medal. This brought conflict between the Goodes and the England management and a reprimand for England for fielding a weakened team — but no Olympic medal. "It didn't work out but we wouldn't have done it differently," Andy said. Joanne agrees, but adds that she would like to atone at Sydney in 2000.

Her new partnership with Donna Kellogg, 20, has great potential, but it already looks

likely that Goode and Archer will, given time, follow their national title with international successes. On Monday, they qualified for the competition proper by winning three matches without dropping a game, and yesterday she and Kellogg qualified.

With these two partners, Goode has won all six domestic events since her return in November. However, there is nothing like facing the Asians and the Danes, as she will this week, to find out how far she has progressed. That may provide clearer signals of what is possible for the woman with two lives.

# Hall conquers early nerves to go through

DARREN HALL, one of the best players in England for much of the past decade, came safely through his first-round match in the Yonex All-England Championships yesterday (Richard Eaton writes). The former European champion overcame a nervous first game, in which he trailed 9-8, before beating a qualifier, Sachin Rani, of India, 15-12, 15-4.

Peter Gade, of Denmark, the No 1 seed, and Ardy Wiranata, of Indonesia, the former All-England champion, appeared even more afflicted by tension. Gade let slip a second-game lead of 10-5 against Zhu Feng, a tall Chinese with a good defence, and then went 5-2 down in the final game with a series of mistakes before surviving 15-8, 10-15, 15-10.

Wiranata trailed by a game and 13-6 to Keita Masuda, of Japan, before finding the consistency with his clearing to avert danger. He took 24 points in a row and the third game in a rush to win 10-15, 15-13, 15-0.

Joanne Goode followed her four matches on Monday with another three yesterday to qualify for the main draw in both the women's and mixed doubles. It was a tough test for a player in only her second important open tournament since her comeback in November. She faces the prospect of another three matches today.

The anomalies of the qualifying system were well illustrated, both by the quality of the opponents whom Goode needed to

beat to reach the competition proper twice and by the opposition that faced her when she got there. She and Simon Archer beat Lee Dong Sou and Jang Hye Ok, of South Korea, the latter the 1995 women's doubles world champions, 15-8, 15-4, while Goode and Donna Kellogg had to beat the capable Japanese combination of Miho Tanaka and Kanako Yonekura 15-9, 15-12.

"We had to play well, and that's about the best I have played since coming back," Goode said. "But I am disappointed to have had to do it so early, not only because I am tired and that will affect my chances later, but because our first-round opponents in both events are English pairs, ranked well below us."

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MARCH 11 1998

# Panic attack proves to taste of Brazil nuts

## Rob Hughes on a coaching appointment in the build-up to the World Cup that cast doubt on a football superpower's credibility



Zico celebrates his installation as technical co-ordinator

WITH just 91 days to the World Cup finals, imagine Glenn Hoddle being told by Lancaster Gate that it is giving him a new team "technical co-ordinator". The England coach, one imagines, would be off in minutes. However, in Brazil, the country that holds the trophy and has the manager who, uniquely, has been associated with four winning World Cup teams, they have done precisely that. Zico, a marvellous player in his time but unproven in coaching, has been appointed under that title and reportedly said: "I'm not concerned with whether I'm above Zago or under him. My only concern is to help the Brazil team to do its best for Brazilian soccer."

lose to rookie nations. Zago, who won the World Cup as a player in 1958 and 1962, won it again as coach in 1970 and was assistant coach in 1994, faces a nasty completed circle. For the 66-year-old had inherited the 1970 team weeks before the tournament, when the right-wing military government removed the avowed left-wing coach, Joao Saldanha. The similarity is pronounced: Saldanha heard of his fall when the football federation announced that the "technical committee" was being dissolved. "Cowards!" Saldanha thundered. "They don't have the guts to tell me I'm being fired. Am I an ice cube to be dissolved?" Never that, Saldanha, the builder of the most fabulous Brazil side, stirred the blood with his adherence to flair and liberty.

His replacement, Zago, came with the reputation of being "the little ant" of the first Brazil side who Pelé played for. He was an industrious winger, associated with the quest that later came through a succession of national team coaches to put regimen into Brazil's game. Ironically, Zico, although he scored 77 times in 92 games for Brazil, was never afforded the freedom that Saldanha would have given. Saldanha said as much in 1978, when he accused the "Europeans" of putting Zico's skills in a straightjacket. The appointment has run ever since and when Brazil regained the World Cup in Pasadena in 1994, Dunga, the captain, admitted: "No more Joao Bonito [pretty play]. This is the Brazil of sweat and sacrifice."

would sacrifice much for a combination of Romario, the goalscoring genius of that tournament, and Ronaldo, his likely partner in France. But what of Zago? He has been in charge for 32 matches, he has lost twice, the 1996 Olympic final to a remarkable Nigeria, and now the unimportant setback in America. The critics, after that, have included Pelé. But it was Zago who pronounced that Brazil has 150 million people, therefore 150 million who think they could coach the national side better than he. He is, clearly, a paternalist, almost a grandfather to the present generation. Yet they have worked to his discipline, some of them have won the cup under him and, unless the committee men know for certain that his venerable mind has lost

tough with modern demands, surely it is ludicrous panic that now puts Zico between Zago and his players. Zico, a fantastic No 10, never quite fulfilled expectations of him as "the white Pelé." He never won the World Cup, perhaps because of that straightjacket around his incontestable skills. But neither has Zico proved anywhere in the world that he can command a team, manage modern players, or the pitch of success that Zago, by his very record, has done. In Scotland, Craig Brown, the manager, is bound to be encouraged by the possibility of confusion inflicted on Brazil's preparations. Conflict between the two Zs, Zago and Zico, must seem inevitable, the only problem being that Brazil, whoever is on the touchline, still possess, player for player, qualities that the rest of the world can only admire. There are an awful lot of players in that vast country... but an awful lot of coaches, too.

# Jacquet to go after the World Cup final

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

AIME JACQUET will step down as the France coach after the World Cup this summer. Jacques told the magazine *France Football*: "On July 13, I will bid farewell to the French team after a last lap of honour, the day in the Stade de France. "When I accepted the job, I told the French Federation president I would prepare and win the World Cup and afterwards I would be finished with high-level competition. "Jacques named Alain Giresse, in charge of first-division Toulouse, as an ideal successor. "He must first coach a big club. Then it'll be a wide open road for him," Jacques said.

Jacquet took over the national team from Gerard Houllier in February, 1994. Giresse said he was very moved by Jacques's comments. "It is a real pleasure to see that what we have done and shared together in this past still lives to this day," he said. "I say 'we' because there are other players of my generation who have shared exceptional moments with Aime. I don't rule out any possibility for the future. But we'll talk about it again after the World Cup."

Giresse was coached by Jacques at first-division Girondins Bordeaux. Jean Tigana, the Monaco coach, who also played for Bordeaux under Jacques, last week ended speculation linking him to the national position by signing with Monaco for two more seasons.

Luis Fernandez, the Athletic Bilbao coach, Joel Muller, of Metz, and Guy Roux, of Auxerre, are among Jacques's other possible successors. In Italy, football authorities are set on a potential confrontation with the European Commission after backing a measure to curb the number of foreign players. The proposal put forward by Walter Veltroni, the Sports Minister, earlier this year, would appear to challenge the principle of free movement of European Union nationals within member countries.

Veltroni says he wants players from EU and non-EU countries to be treated alike. In an attempt to protect "the national character" of Serie A, he also wants to restrict the number of foreign players, from inside or outside the EU, to five in each match-day squad of 16.

Franco Carraro, the league president, said: "I'm absolutely in agreement. The European community recognises the peculiar nature of football and is open to the idea of limiting the number of foreign players."

### FIXTURES

Table listing football fixtures for various leagues including FA Cup, Premier League, and others.

# Stam sets sights on joining United next season

By DAVID MADDOCK

EVEN as Manchester United attempt to wrap up the FA Carling Premiership title this season, they are already plotting a stronger assault for honours next year. That much became clear yesterday when Japp Stam, Holland's player of the year, suggested strongly that he will join them during the summer. Stam, an international centre half who will figure prominently in the World Cup finals this summer, said that he expects to join United, indicating that moves have already been made to facilitate his desire.



Stam confident

There was a board meeting at Old Trafford yesterday, to consider transfer targets for next season, before the team flew to London with the slightly more pressing ambition of securing the championship for a record-equalling third season in succession. United play West Ham United tonight knowing that victory would virtually end the ambitions of all but Arsenal among their rivals. Stam's announcement, though, will act as a stark warning to the players against complacency. The PSV Eindhoven defender said that events had moved on a pace since he was first linked with the English champions. "Manchester United has always been the club I wanted to join, and now it

looks like it could become a reality," Stam said. "Everyone knows what my plans are [to join United] and I am assuming that PSV will enter into serious negotiations." Harry Van Raaij, the Eindhoven president, has suggested that he would require a £15 million fee for a player who is contracted to the club until 2003. Stam, however, firmly believes that United's valuation of around £6 million will be closer to the final fee. "£24 million dollars is not a realistic fee, particularly for a defender," he said. "But he [Van Raaij] has probably just put that out as a feeler and I assume a more normal figure would emerge in the course of negotiations." Even if talks are already

under way, there is little prospect of a deal being completed before the end of the season. Any new signing at this stage would be unavailable to play in the European Cup and as United are well on their way to winning the Premiership title, Alex Ferguson, the manager, would not risk unsettling players he must ask to succeed in Europe for him.

Ferguson will have Peter Schmeichel back in goal this evening, as United look to lay something of a ghost at Upton Park. They have twice seen their title hopes quashed there in recent seasons. Ferguson may also have Ryan Giggs on the substitutes' bench, but he will not risk Gary Pallister or Philip Neville. "It is a hard place to go, and we must be on our guard down there," Ferguson said. Arsenal travel to play Wimbledon, knowing that victory is imperative if they are to maintain a realistic challenge for the championship. Andy Roberts, Wimbledon's versatile new signing from Crystal Palace, will make his debut, and the club has also agreed a deal to sign Mark Kennedy, the Liverpool forward, at the end of the season.

Newcastle United yesterday completed the signing of Nicolas Dabizas, the Greece international defender, from Olympiakos of Athens for £2 million. The 24-year-old has signed a four-year contract. "This is a big step for me, a new career at a big club, and there is no doubting the quality of the Premiership," he said. Gooce Sedoski, Sheffield Wednesday's latest signing, has been granted a work permit, but has yet to receive international clearance and could miss the match away to Bolton Wanderers on Saturday.

"We hope to have him in the pot for the weekend, depending on the formalities," Ron Atkinson, the Wednesday manager, said. "We shall monitor the situation this week." Sedoski, the Macedonian centre-half, was signed from Hajduk Split for £750,000 plus a series of staggered payments. Everton may move to sign Lars Bohinen, the midfielder who has been told that he can leave by Blackburn Rovers.



Ronaldo, the Brazil striker, saw his penalty saved by the brilliant Buffon in Internazionale's defeat away to Parma

# Lazio delighted with capital gains

LAZIO are the team of the moment in Italy, and tonight they could well knock Juventus out of the Italian Cup. They won the first leg 1-0 in Turin and on Sunday had a famous victory over AS Roma in the impassioned city derby.

Only a week earlier, Roma had thrashed Fiorentina 4-1 in the same Stadio Olimpico, but they could not even manage a goal against a Lazio team that scored twice in the second half. Sven Goran Eriksson, the Swede who took charge of Lazio this season, said: "We fully deserved the result, and we got a great defence." This win brought Lazio to within four points of Juventus, still the leaders, leapfrogging Internazionale, who went down 1-0 away to Parma. Juve were saved only by the

## Brian Glanville on the rapidly emerging challengers for the Serie A championship

skin of their teeth, Daniel Fonseca, the Argentine striker, got the winner for Parma. Weariness after their hard-fought 1-1 draw away to Leverkusen in the European Cup quarter-finals last Wednesday, compounded by the sending-off of Fernando Hierro, probably accounted for Real Madrid's 3-0 defeat away to Barcelona, who thus established a five-point advantage with a game in hand at the top of the Spanish championship. Among Barcelona's scorers was the Brazilian, Sonny Anderson, signed this season from Marseille, and evident back in favour after harsh exchanges with Louis van Gaal, the manager. Van Gaal might well keep his job after looking doomed when, in the Champions' League, his team were twice humiliated by Dynamo Kiev. The Ukrainians, meanwhile, were robbed last Wednesday of a 2-0 advantage against Juventus at the Stadio delle Alpi. Kiev were mysteriously refused a penalty while leading 1-0 when Rebrov was blatantly hacked down in the area. Paul Durkin, England's World Cup referee, saw no evil, and Juve went on to equalise.

In the Bundesliga, Bayern Munich fell further behind the unexpected leaders, promoted Kaiserslautern, losing 1-0 away to Schalke 04, the holders of the UEFA Cup. The scorer was Thomas Linke, who was subsequently sent off 17 minutes from the end. In France, an AS Monaco team without five first-choice players, including all three strikers, went down 1-0 on their own bumpy pitch to Lens, who thus moved into second place, one point behind Metz. The goal was scored eight minutes into the second half by Stephane Ziani - half by Stephane Ziani - an ample consolation for a player who, two weeks earlier, was "enraged" when his team surprisingly went down 2-1 away to struggling Chateauroux.

# FA orders inquiry into Collymore's claims

THE Football Association has ordered its own inquiry into the dispute between Stan Collymore and Steve Harkness after a failed attempt by the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) to resolve the disagreement between the players. Collymore, of Aston Villa, had accused Harkness, his former Liverpool teammate, of making racist remarks during their match last month.

The FA said yesterday that it will also investigate allegations of a similar incident between Andy Rhodes, of Scarborough, and Trevor Benjamin, of Cambridge United, in a Nationwide League third division match in January. Gordon Taylor, the PFA chairman, spent four hours at

the union's headquarters in Manchester trying to reach a compromise, but admitted that talks had been "unsuccessful" and had done little more than broker an uneasy truce between Collymore and Harkness. Neither player was prepared to back down on his stance after several days of claim and counter-claim. However, in a statement, the FA said that Graham Kelly, its chief executive, would be seeking observations from all parties. "Football is determined to rid the game of any element of racism and we will be seeking to get to the truth behind the allegations," the statement said. Collymore said that he was disappointed, but had no regrets about making his complaint public.

# Gallagher remains in control

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

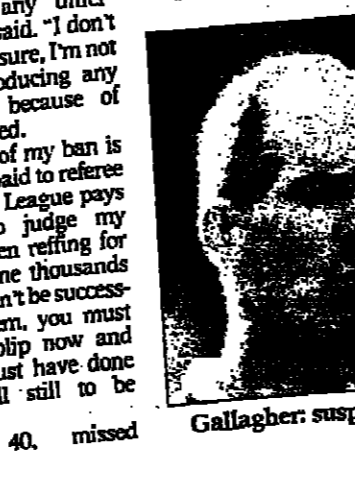
DERMOT GALLAGHER, the referee, is a fatalist. He believes in "what will be, will be" and bears no ill will towards those perceived to have harmed him. When he takes charge of the FA Carling Premiership match between Wimbledon and Arsenal at Selhurst Park tonight, his thoughts will stray no farther than controlling the 22 players before him.

Fate, indeed, has dealt Gallagher a strange hand. His last match was Arsenal's 2-0 victory against Chelsea at Highbury on February 8, after which he was suspended for one game for what was deemed a substandard display. Central to the tone of the play, Central to the tone of the referee assessor's report was Gallagher's decision to caution the Arsenal defender, Bould, the Arsenal defender, after he had hauled down Gianluca Vialli, the Chelsea striker. Gallagher appreciates the

irony of this evening, of returning in a fixture that he abandoned in December when the floodlights failed, when the players and with some of the players who, inadvertently, had contributed to his public humiliation and temporary fall from grace. At least Bould, who is ruled out by a broken thumb, will not be present to evoke any lingering memories. "If Steve were playing, it wouldn't make any difference," Gallagher said. "I don't feel any extra pressure, but I'm going to be introducing a new game-plan because of what has happened."

"What I think of my ban is immaterial. I'm paid to referee and the Premier League pays other people to judge my displays. I've done thousands of games. You can't be successful in all of them, you must have a slight blip now and again, but I must have done reasonably well still to be refereeing." Gallagher, 40, missed

Blackburn Rovers' 5-3 win against Leicester City at Ewood Park on February 28. His "appointed previous assignment was withdrawn," as the powers that be described it, and he spent the day watching Witley Town, where he works as sports development officer, play in the Dr Martens League southern division. "I was astonished by the



Gallagher: suspension

support I received, including calls from notorious ref-bashers, but it's never easy being redundant on a Saturday," he said. "I'm an athletic person so it wasn't very pleasurable. But I looked at it positively. I got up early, went to the gym, trained for 1 1/2 hours, had lunch and then went up to Witley."

Only days after learning of his assignment withdrawal, he was notified that he would be refereeing Scotland's World Cup warm-up match against Denmark at Ibrox on March 25. "It was a bit of a num-num for me. I was absolutely thrilled," he said. "Ibrox has a magical mystique about it and it'll be a great day. "It is fate, I believe that. You accept what life dishes up and that's how it is. Perhaps I've killed the myth that you can't get a game, go down the pub with your mates and have a laugh. We're now accountable. But I've no axe to grind with anyone. I'm just going to get on with it."

# Bonds adds Gritt to the Millwall survival cause

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

BILLY BONDS, the Millwall manager, has appointed Steve Gritt as his assistant to help to arrest the club's alarming slide towards the relegation places in the Nationwide League second division. Bonds, who has been working without a deputy since he arrived at The Den last April in succession to Jimmy Nicholl, approached Gritt after he was dismissed as the Brighton manager last month. Bonds said: "We have known each other for some time and he has experience at managerial level which is a tremendous asset. "He did a great job in helping Brighton to avoid relegation last season. Steve is an honest man and his arrival should take a bit of the workload off me." Gritt, who was also the joint manager of Charlton Athletic with Alan Curbishley between

1991 and 1995, said: "I have known Billy a long time and I am thrilled to be given the chance to work for him. I was out of football for a long time after I left Charlton. So it is a relief to be offered something so soon after what happened at Brighton." Millwall have won only one of their past eight league matches and are seventeenth in the division. Kenny Dalgligh, the Newcastle United manager, has signed Robin Hulbert, an England youth international midfielder, from Swindon Town on a month's loan. Hulbert, 17, will train with Newcastle's first team with Dalgligh hoping to make his move to St James' Park permanent if he fits in. Hulbert, who has played just once in Swindon's first

team as a substitute, against Wolverhampton Wanderers earlier this season, said: "It'll be a great experience for me. You can only learn from working with people like Kenny Dalgligh and Alan Shearer."

Vince Wolanin, the American businessman, has given the club's centenary - a date of the club's centenary - to accept his latest offer to buy the first division club. Wolanin says he will invest up to £90 million to build a new ground for Portsmouth with an American-style leisure development alongside. Martin Gregory, whose family have owned the Fratton Park club for the past ten years, is demanding £5 million to sell his 97 per cent share. Wolanin's first offer to buy the club - £2 million - was rejected by Gregory.

### RUGBY UNION

Allied Division Premiership First division Gloucester v Wasps (7.30). Cheltenham and Gloucester Cup Quarter-final Bedford v Bristol (7.30). Mobiles memorial match East Midlands v Berkshire (at Northampton, 8.30).

### OTHER SPORT

BADMINTON: All-England Championships (at Birmingham). BASEBALL: Budweiser League, Baltimore Orioles v Sheffield Sharks (7.30). ICE HOCKEY: Superleague, Sheffield Group A, Nottingham Panthers v Sheffield Steelers (7.30). Newcastle Cobras v Ayr Scottish Eagles (7.30). Group B, Brackley Bears v Cardiff Devils (7.30). Batsbridge Bears v Manchester Storm (7.30).

Football has become infected by culture of ritual abuse



Francis was moved to resign over the abuse directed at his family that some supporters thought acceptable because of his position

Francis right to make a stand

It's a while since I last had a really poisonous letter. Must be slacking, ho ho ho! Well, poisonous letters go with the territory, don't they? A journalist is, in a small way, a public figure, so naturally I get letters.

And so back to Francis, the manager of Birmingham City. He resigned in a fury of emotion because of poisonous abuse flung at his wife and son rather than him, which makes the abuse much nastier and the reaction much stronger.

I shouldn't let it get to me, but it does'

Of course, there are complications — the who-runs-the-club business with football's most famous managing director, Karren Brady, and Francis has been unresigned with many apologies since. But the point is that the flame that ignited the charge was abuse.

SIMON BARNES



Midweek View

A manager is lucky to be in a position to receive abuse. He and his family accept the abuse. So runs the popular understanding, anyway. But I, with about 100,000th of a single percentage point when compared with the 100 per cent scoring Francis in the public figure scale, say that Francis was right to be in a rage.

agreed with. I have a couple of letters, one from Max Mosley, of Formula One, and another from Cable and Wireless, one offering a well-expressed counter-argument, another correcting me (rightly) on fact. They are decent letters but I have others. "Dear Mr Barnes, is there no end to your ignorance?" And on and on and worse and worse.

But fewer than usual in the past six months, and I think it is because I have been writing more about horses and less about football. I have, by accident, taken a holiday from the culture of ritual abuse.

Abuse is by no means peculiar to football but, in football, you get it by the bucket load. And it gets to you, it really does — and I am about as far from the front line as it is possible to be. "Well, Trevor, I really do think that your thinking on defence is wrong. So far as I am concerned, the three centre back system..." Well, no one minds that. "For Trevor, you

are an evil man and I hate you..." That is another matter.

Football managers take that. Abuse turned on their families, however, touches something very deep. The exposure to human bile, even by letter, is a profoundly horrible experience. The fact that it goes with the territory does not make it easier — and it does not excuse the abusers.

Francis is lucky to be a football manager; I am lucky to write for my living. Good fortune, though, does not make an open season of abuse a moral right for the rest of the world. Approximately decent behaviour between one human being and another is how civilisation works.

I am well aware that many people believe that sport lets them off rational thought. Increasingly, and especially in football, people believe that sport lets them off decent behaviour as well. It is time somebody said no. Francis was right.

SNOOKER

Hendry shows glimpses of best form in victory

STEPHEN HENDRY continued the process of rebuilding his fragile confidence by convincingly beating Tony Drago 5-1 to secure a place in the quarter-finals of the Thailand Masters here last night.

The six-times world champion, whose usually unshakable self-belief has been seriously affected by 12 frustrating months without a trophy, displayed his former fluency with breaks of 94, 67, 70 and 48.

Hendry, whose only setback came in a fourth frame that he

lost on the black after missing a red when 70 points ahead, goes forward to meet Mark Williams, who defeated him 10-9 on a respooned black in the

climax to the Benson and Hedges Masters last month. Also still fresh in Hendry's memory is a 9-2 defeat by Williams, his heaviest in a final, when they met for the British Open title last April. "Losing to Mark at Wembley put me back to square one in terms of confidence," Hendry said.

"I've been getting bad publicity because I've been losing a lot recently, but there's no point moaning about it. All I can do is to keep plugging away, and I'm sure things will turn around."

John Parrott, who plays Stephen Lee in the last 16 today, was "mightily impressed" by Marco Fu after being forced to perform close to his best in order to defeat the promising world amateur and world under-21 champion 5-3.

"You can't help but compliment Marco. In among the balls, his touch is top-class. He's going to be a real handful — in fact, he already is," Parrott said, after watching the rapidly-improving 20-year-old from Hong Kong compile breaks of 74, 77 and 135.

Williams reached the last eight with an unconvincing 5-3 win over Martin Clark, while Anthony Hamilton joined him by beating Fergal O'Brien, the surprise first-round conqueror of John Higgins, 5-0.

Peter Ebdon, the title-holder, was detained for 3½ hours in a match that did not finish until 2.30am local time before beating Graeme Dott 5-4. Ebdon held his composure to fashion a 64 break in the deciding frame.



Parrott: overcame Fu

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TELEVISION CHOICE

More tasty young talent

Junior Masterchef BBC1, 7.00pm Members of the Annika Rice fan club can be reassured that there is no sinister reason for her long absence from the television screen. From the lips of Annika herself we learn that after 15 years of more or less non-stop activity she has decided to spend more time with her sons, take up painting and just hang out. She also reveals that she rarely cooks, which may not be the best qualification for judging a cookery competition. But here she is with the chef and restaurateur Alastair Little at the start of a new Junior Masterchef series to taste and assess the dishes of three absurdly talented 10 to 15-year-olds. Despite limits of time and budget, the youngsters' menus are ambitious, the food is colourful and beautifully presented and Loyd Grossman says the ice-cream is the best he has tasted on any Masterchef show, junior or not.



Little, Grossman, Rice (BBC1, 7.00pm)

Modern Times Bare BBC2, 9.00pm The thesis of Rebecca Frayn's film is that the style of the 1990s is Minimalism, at least among well-off people in London's fashionable parts of London. The idea is to reject the conspicuous consumption of the 1980s, with its materialistic clutter, in favour of bare rooms where even the light switches are hidden away. The irony is that rejecting the material does not come cheap. A two-bedroom flat in Battersea, with its large expanses of white nothing, is on the market for £900,000. The owners decided to sell after discovering that Minimalism was unsuited to the needs of their small children. Meanwhile Guido Palau, hairdresser to the stars, is looking forward to his purpose-built home, even if the architects will not allow him a carpet, and Diana Allen is hoping that moving to a stark white loft space will help her over a disastrous marriage.

former role as an exclusive conference centre and has installed Michael Longstaff, a former hotel manager, to make it happen. Longstaff has been given a year to turn the business round and he needs to generate more than £4 million in revenue. He faces formidable handicaps. The former clients say the place is not the same without a lord in residence, while the staff, some of whom go back many years, are suspicious of Longstaff's brash new management style. The film follows him through his first fraught months.

Trouble at the Top BBC2, 9.50pm Another gripping tale of a business on the brink visits Broomfield Hall in Hertfordshire. It used to be the seat of Lord Broomfield (and he was sent to prison for insurance fraud, but is now owned by a German tycoon who lives in Hong Kong. He wants to return the empty and crumbling property to its

First on Four Channel 4, 10.00pm It may not have occurred to many of us but an extraordinary number of young comedians who emerged in the 1980s began their television careers on Channel 4. This series recalls some of them, starting with Harry Enfield. Most of it is the standard mixture of clips, quotes from colleagues and comments from Enfield himself. We also meet the kebabs shop owner who was the original for Enfield's Stavros. But then there is Edward Enfield, Harry's Dad, and he is something less than a fan. He calls Spinning Image (for which Harry supplied many of the voices) "a horrible programme" and deeply unpleasant about people who had done nothing to deserve it. Enfield is almost as dismissive of young Harry's most famous creation, the sloth yuppie Leadsamoney, though that is a minority view. Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

In The Name of Security Radio 4, 7.20pm The last in this absorbing three-part series is probably the most interesting. It concerns the extraordinary events in 1953 when J. Robert Oppenheimer was summoned before the US Atomic Energy Commission, which was seeking to discover if he was fit to have security clearance removed. The hearing decided that he should be suspended from secret nuclear research, a humiliating outcome that is hotly contested even to this day. Oppenheimer was the father of the atom bomb, having been director of the Los Alamos research laboratory. He certainly had left-wing, perhaps communist, friends but this dramatic documentary suggests that he was naive rather than anything more sinister.

Lion's Den Radio 4, 8.20pm There are some listeners to radio who are genuinely wedded to the medium and regard television as a dreadful interloper. I heartily recommend this programme for their benefit. The argument put forward here, before an invited audience at Bath, is that British television is the worst in the world. The person advancing that view is Professor Elaine Showalter and I can only presume that there is a strict limit to the number of countries she is including in "the world" for the sake of this argument. I have, for example, lived at various times with the television services of both Singapore and Saudi Arabia. Even the dullest BBC Sunday night drama would knock those two into a cocked hat. Peter Bazzaard

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zof Ball 8.00am Simon Mayo 12.00am Jump Midweek Includes 12.20pm Newsbeat 2.00pm Mark Radcliffe 4.00pm Dave Pearce 5.45pm Newsbeat 6.30pm Steve Lamacq: The Evening Session 8.30pm Movie Update with Mark Kermode 8.40pm John Peel 10.30pm Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00am Chris Wainman 4.00pm Chris Moyles

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 On the Spot 7.30 Newsday 7.50 Newsday Live 8.00 News 8.15 Passé for Thought 8.15 Newsday 8.30 Newsday 8.45 Newsday 9.15 The Farming World 9.30 Britain News 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsday 10.30 The Press 11.00 Newsday 11.30 Sports Roundup 12.00 News 12.30 Newsday 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newsday 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Megamix 3.00 Newsday 3.15 Newsday 3.30 Sports Roundup 3.15 Newsday 3.30 Newsday 3.45 From Our Own Correspondent 4.30 Newsday 4.45 Newsday 4.55 Newsday 5.00 Newsday 5.15 Newsday 5.30 Newsday 5.45 Newsday 5.55 Newsday 6.00 Newsday 6.15 Newsday 6.30 Newsday 6.45 Newsday 6.55 Newsday 7.00 Newsday 7.15 Newsday 7.30 Newsday 7.45 Newsday 7.55 Newsday 8.00 Newsday 8.15 Newsday 8.30 Newsday 8.45 Newsday 8.55 Newsday 9.00 Newsday 9.15 Newsday 9.30 Newsday 9.45 Newsday 9.55 Newsday 10.00 Newsday 10.15 Newsday 10.30 Newsday 10.45 Newsday 10.55 Newsday 11.00 Newsday 11.15 Newsday 11.30 Newsday 11.45 Newsday 11.55 Newsday 12.00 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HOCKEY 34
Top marks for
Oxford in
University match

SPORT

WEDNESDAY MARCH 11 1998

BADMINTON 36

Goode progression
founded on
family values



Venables takes more time to consider return as coach at Selhurst Park

Gascoigne on Palace wanted list

By ROB HUGHES

WHO would be a Crystal Palace supporter? Tonight their team is away to Chelsea, desperate for points towards survival in the FA Cup Premier League. Yesterday, those fans awake to expectations that, under the five-year plan of the putative multimillionaire chairman Mark Goldberg, they may sign Terry Venables as a coaching messiah, and even Paul Gascoigne as the saviour on the pitch.

Alas, Venables flew to Barcelona without confirming one way or the other his intentions towards the South London club. And Gascoigne, who has not completed a game since February 7, was quick to say, through his agent, that it was "precipitous to say the least" to suggest that he was "coming home" to English football.

There is no myth in this: Gascoigne, at his best, remains the pivotal player in terms of creativity for England's World Cup chances in June. He has calf strain at present, but there have been other problems of late, in mind and body, that suggest, now that Walter Smith is departing as Rangers manager, that Gascoigne is losing the effervescent enthusiasm that is the core of his game.

Rangers, shortly after Goldberg had broadcast his intention to pursue Gascoigne on BBC radio yesterday, took barely five minutes to respond that the player was Palace's for an initial sum of £3 million, with more to come depending on future appearances.

Later Mel Stein, the lawyer who advises Gascoigne, insisted: "Paul's made no firm decision to leave Rangers and certainly won't be making a decision to go anywhere until he's fit. And that's going to be at least a week or so."

So, false hopes and expectations, not exactly what Crystal Palace need while, under their intelligent but surely by now underminded coach, Steve Coppell, they struggle with the weight of all the other Premiership teams above them. Venables, having promised a decision by yesterday teatime, would only say that there is a

possibility of him stepping into the Palace breach. You never really know with Venables; he is from Dagenham roots, otherwise you might connect him with the Hungarians who, by repute, can enter a revolving door at your back and come out ahead of you.

He was heading for Barcelona, for the sun and family, but it is not inconceivable that Venables could manage Palace until the end of the season, gain or lose a little credibility, and then if things go badly for Gianluca Vialli, return to his old playing ground, as the next Chelsea coach.

He points out that he is still under contract to Australia "and that is definitely a complication". It would be more so

demonstrated, puts enormous faith in the skills of Gascoigne and in his own ability to manage and inspire them. Gascoigne, however, who will be 31 in May, is becoming more injury prone and his temperament is not yet tamed. A £3 million, down payment is a mighty gamble for a team catalyst who, even if he signed today, would require time to run himself into form. Palace are rather like Portsmouth when Venables took over there, but they appear to have two men in the chair and potentially too many heading for the dugout.

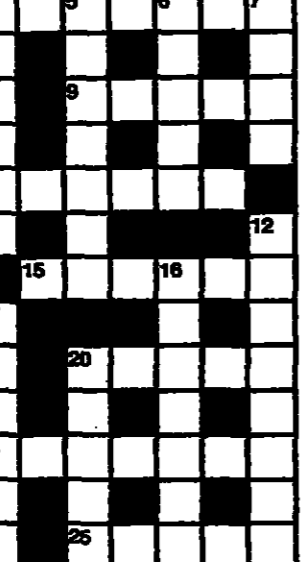
Insiders at Selhurst Park say that Goldberg, 34, a self-made computer business mogul, should not be treated whimsically, as if he was a second Michael Knighton knocking on the door of Manchester United. His Palace affiliations are bona fide, his first instalment towards the takeover has already been paid to Ron Noades, the present chairman. Goldberg has talked, often and vociferously, of redeveloping the Selhurst Park stadium into a 40,000 capacity arena.

He said recently that the money to complete his £30 million full takeover of the club by December has been raised, and he has spoken of Juventus being a partner with a 10 per cent stake. Moreover, Goldberg has pronounced that Coppell, as soon as his successor is installed, will "implement the Juventus model" at Palace.

Goldberg insisted last night that, although he had reportedly dined with John Barnes, presumably with the job of player-coach in mind: "I do not want to rush Terry into making a decision and end up with him saying 'no. We are making progress all the time.' Progress and Palace have not been convincing bed fellows in recent weeks, but the fans' faith has to be eternal."

They, of course, believe they are going to Stamford Bridge to win tonight. They then, rapidly, face Aston Villa, the Premiership side that Gascoigne rejected a couple of months ago... and then have the breathing space of two weeks without a contest in which to secure a blueprint for the future.

Gascoigne: injured



Venables had still to announce his decision on whether to join Palace before leaving for Barcelona yesterday

Rangers' mood reaches new low

By KEVIN MCCARRA

ONCE the Bronx crowd had finished jeering at full-time in Rangers' 0-0 draw with Dundee in the Tennents Scottish Cup quarter-final on Monday, a morose mood spread through the supporters. One man, representing with a swastika that had fallen into his hands at the club, told his friend that they ought just to be grateful for the seasons in which Rangers have won their nine consecutive Scottish League titles.

He took it for granted that the era was over. The fatalism is perverse, given that the club should still advance into the semi-finals of the Scottish Cup, where they would meet their Old Firm rivals, Celtic. Even in the league, Rangers' position is not terminal since there are nine matches remaining in which to whittle down the four-point lead that Celtic hold over them.

Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, insists that his team can still improve. The reasoning is sound, but so far, it has been powerless to repel the

SEMI-FINALS

Falkirk v Heart of Midlothian
Rangers v Dundee v Celtic
To be played on April 4 and 5

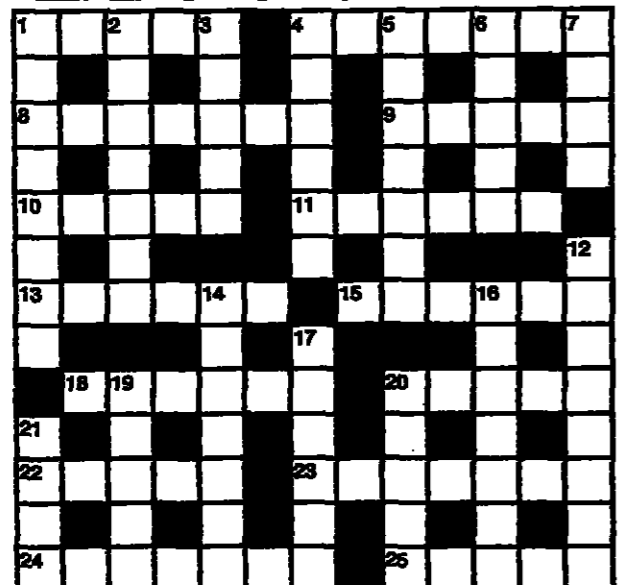
elegiac mood at a club where too many leave-takings are in progress. In October, Smith announced that he would stand down at the season's end, since Brian Laudrup has confirmed that he will be joining Chelsea. The speculation now concerns a move by Paul Gascoigne to Crystal Palace.

At Ibrox, Rangers tried to break their own dependence on Gascoigne and Laudrup, but the withdrawal symptoms, when the pair were absent from that pallid draw with Dundee, were pitiful to behold.

Smith signed nine foreign players last summer but only one of the newcomers, Marco Negri, has been a success. Many supporters have already turned their thoughts to the exciting changes Dick Advocaat might make when he comes from PSV Eindhoven to take over as manager in the close season.

It is Smith's task to persuade his team and its followers that the present, too, can still be enthralling.

TIMES CROSSWORD



No 1350

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Ferguson's target, page 37
Call for Zico, page 37
Simon Barnes, page 38

Broadcasters agree deal for World Cup

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

AFTER much negotiation, English cricket has finally struck a deal acceptable to terrestrial and satellite television over the screening of the 1999 World Cup. BSkyB, the principal event broadcaster, will share live coverage with BBC and both channels will show the final at Lord's.

The joint contract is worth £8 million and manages to perpetuate the difficult balance cricket has struck between maximising revenue and ensuring the widest possible audience. Despite months when a deal was threatened by BBC's irritation at being subsidiary to Sky, an associate company of News International, owners of The Times, this is the best compromise.

More than 220 hours of cricket will be transmitted live during the 38-day tournament, and there will be regular highlights packages. In a separate agreement, BBC Radio has obtained commentary rights and will broadcast

games live on Radios Four and Five Live.

Further afield, television agreements have been reached in Africa and Australia and others are pending. The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), in its management role for the event, estimates that the global reach of the World Cup will exceed two billion and take in 100 countries.

Speaking specifically of the domestic television rights, Terry Blake, the tournament director, called it "a great deal for cricket and a great deal for viewers". He might have added that it was a great relief to him, too, in his prominent role as lobbyist for the ECB on the protracted issue of delisting English Test cricket.

A decision on whether satellite channels can now bid to cover England's home Tests is expected within a month and Blake could not afford any

untimely fallout between Sky and the BBC in advance of that verdict. Yesterday's announcement, then, could hardly have been more opportune.

The tournament begins with a 30-match group stage, with either one or two fixtures a day from May 14 to 31. One game a day will be televised live, Sky screening 11 and the BBC seven. The opening match at Lord's, between England and the holders, Sri Lanka, will be on Sky and, thereafter, the channels screen two of England's four remaining group games each.

There will be some interesting new live venues, with Sky taking its cameras to Dublin for West Indies against Bangladesh and to Edinburgh for Scotland against New Zealand.

The second group stage, to be known as the super six, involves nine matches between June 4 and 13 and all will be televised live, five by Sky and four by the BBC. Each broadcaster will screen one of the semi-finals, scheduled for June 16 and 17. The final is on Sunday June 20.

This is pleasingly extensive coverage and even those without access to satellite television are better served than in previous World Cups. Given the chaos that preceded the last tournament, when television coverage in India, one of the host countries, was in doubt to the eleventh hour, it has also been finalised early.

The ECB announced yesterday that it has engaged three global partners, or sponsors, in Vodafone, NatWest and Pepsi-Cola, with two more to sign up.

Evans set to blow final whistle

By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

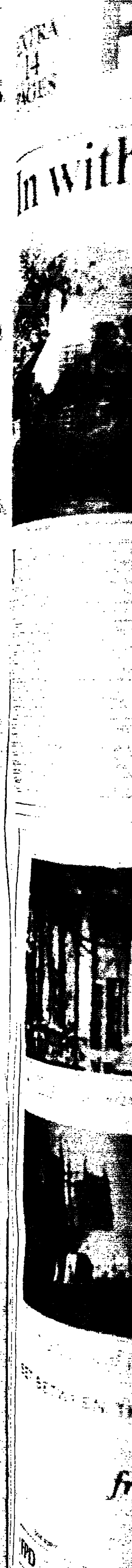
IEUAN EVANS, Wales's most-capped player, is poised to retire from international rugby. Evans, 34 next week, has struggled recently with a calf injury after making a late start to the season because of a groin injury sustained on the British Isles tour of South Africa last summer.

He made his 72nd appearance for Wales against Italy at Llanelli in January and, a week later, shared in Bath's Heineken Cup win over Brive. He was selected for the Five Nations Championship match with England last month but a training injury forced his withdrawal and may have led to a re-evaluation of his distinguished playing career.

Evans has called a press conference for today, a day before the Wales management will confirm its squad for the game with Ireland in Dublin on March 21, keeping one eye on the political manoeuvring in England that may yet have an impact upon the other home unions. There was a flurry of meetings yesterday involving players, clubs and Rugby Football Union (RFU) officials while Fran Cotton, vice-chairman of the RFU management board, met 11 of the 12 second-division clubs at Coventry.

Cotton, accompanied by Clive Woodward, the England coach, presented his vision of England's playing future that has caused such a furore among the upper club echelons. "We agreed with the general principles of a strong England and a revitalised six nations," Richard Greenwood, from Waterloo, said.

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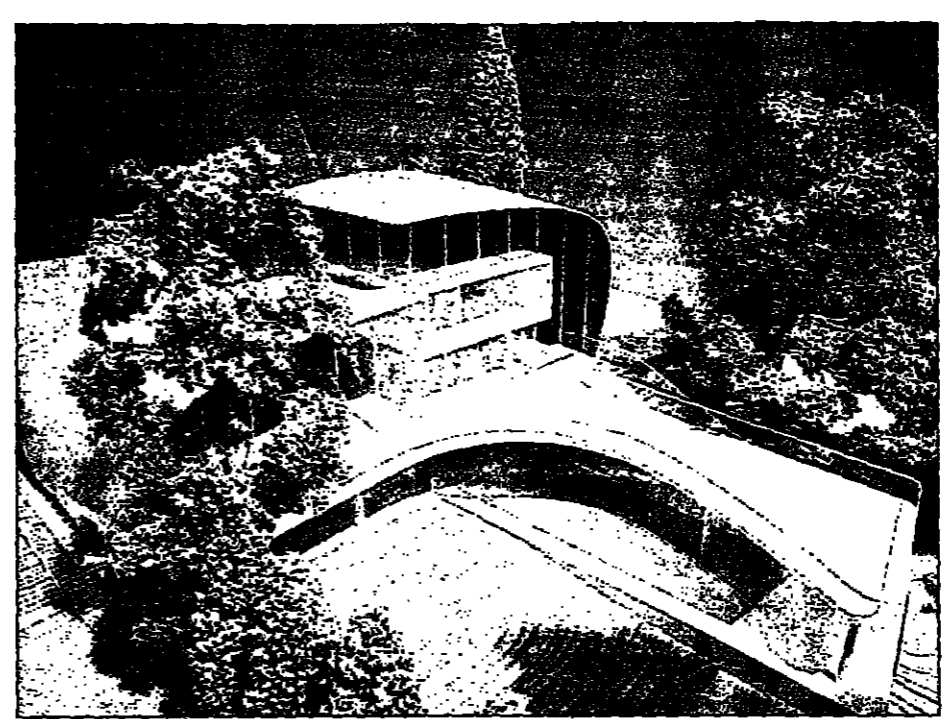


EXTRA  
PAGES

# THE TIMES People & property

WEDNESDAY MARCH 11 1998

## In with the old, out with the new?



The traditional style of Blue Orchard, Courtenay Avenue, in Highgate, North London, and, right, the house that might replace it if Ron Arad, architect and designer, wins his appeal

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, talked last month of the need for a "renaissance" in our cities as he announced the Government's national target of building 60 per cent of homes on recycled urban land.

Architects, surveyors, planners and builders who struggle daily with the frustrations of building within towns could be forgiven a cynical sigh. For all the hype, the reality is that to create something architecturally new is laden with difficulty. Take the case of Ron Arad, one of Britain's most innovative architects and designers.

Last December the London Borough of Haringey turned down permission for Mr Arad to build a futuristic house near Hampstead Heath in north London. He is to appeal to the planning inspector against the decision this summer. Meanwhile, Haringey Council and local interest groups are being

officially asked for their opinions about the house in Courtenay Avenue, Highgate.

Mr Arad's 6,000sq ft house was to have been built in a conservation area. The shell-shaped roof with a glazed opening would give the impression from the street of two fragile, opalescent curved shells resting in the landscape. The visitor entering the six-bedroom house would walk up a short ramped bridge to the main floor. The thin roof shells make the most of the house's east-west orientation. At sunrise and sunset, the sun would shine through the living rooms. At the northwest side of the house, a hole would be cut in the shells, bringing light down into the hallway.

The design is typical of the work of Mr Arad, who left his native Israel in the 1970s to train at London's Architectural Association. He achieved public notice with his Rover chair (a red leather car seat on

### Architects face an uphill struggle when they break with tradition in residential areas. Rachel Kelly looks at a typical battle

an metal tubing base) and his name is still more readily associated with furniture than with housing. Aged 46, he is now Professor of Furniture at the Royal College of Art.

In 1988 Mr Arad won a competition to design the foyer of the Tel Aviv opera house. Then came the Adidas sports centre and cafes in France. More recently he designed the Belgo restaurant chain in London. He now lives with his wife and two daughters in Belsize Park, North London, in a two-storey garden house big enough to house many of his steel furniture designs.

His "shell-house" design has received far-reaching support. Sir Jocelyn Stevens, the chairman of English Heritage, described it as a

bold design. "Contrary to popular belief," he said, "conservation areas do not exist to prevent good new architecture or to ensure that every new building conforms to what is already there. The question is whether the new building is an outstanding design which will enhance its surroundings. In our opinion, this unusual and innovative house, with its elegant sculptural qualities, will be a wonderful addition to the Highgate conservation area, respecting and enhancing the woodland setting." English Heritage is backing Mr Arad's appeal.

But the plans would mean demolishing another, unlisted, house designed by the architect C.H.B.

Quennell in the arts and crafts style in the 1920s. Haringey Council describe this house as of significant architectural and historic interest and say that "the obvious merits" of the new building would not outweigh the loss of the existing house.

The council is backed by the Highgate Society, the Council for British Archaeology and 15 of the avenue's residents, who describe the planned building variously as an eyesore, out of keeping, pompous, inflammatory, brutal, bulky, looking like a broken egg and an architectural freak.

Mr Arad concedes that the neighbourhood has reacted nervously to change. "The idea of having a unique modern construction has often met with their disapproval, although the actual model of the house has seldom been seen," he says.

"Just the unconventional design scares off a lot of people - but our design will be less detrimental to the area's main feature, its heavily wooded landscape, than the other brick houses in the street."

Many architects blame the public's fear of the new on the conservatism of the volume house-builders. Jonathan Spencer, managing director of Waites, says: "One major fear might be that customers are afraid of losing resale value with an extraordinary house." As a counter, Waites is running a competition to design a house for the year 2000, with a first prize of £5,000.

Tony Chapman, from RIBA, says: "There is too much effort to fit new houses into their surroundings. We will never have new development if everything fits to the old styles." There is a plethora of improved building materials waiting to be used, he adds. "Glass technology, especially, has developed considerably. Glass is much tougher nowadays and can even store heat."

Additional research: Ilka Schmitt, Adam Barnard

#### BUDGET



What will the Chancellor do to house prices? PAGE 2

#### ARCHERS



The plans that put Lynda Snell in a lather PAGE 3

#### RETIREMENT



What to look for as you grow older PAGE 9



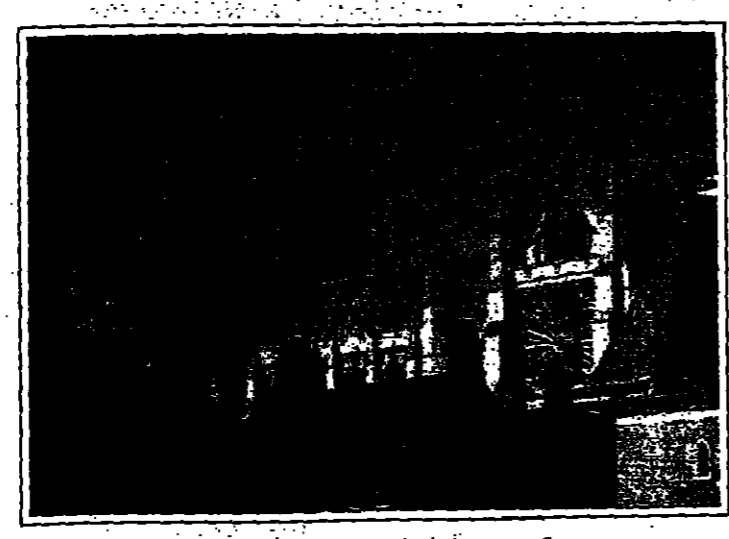
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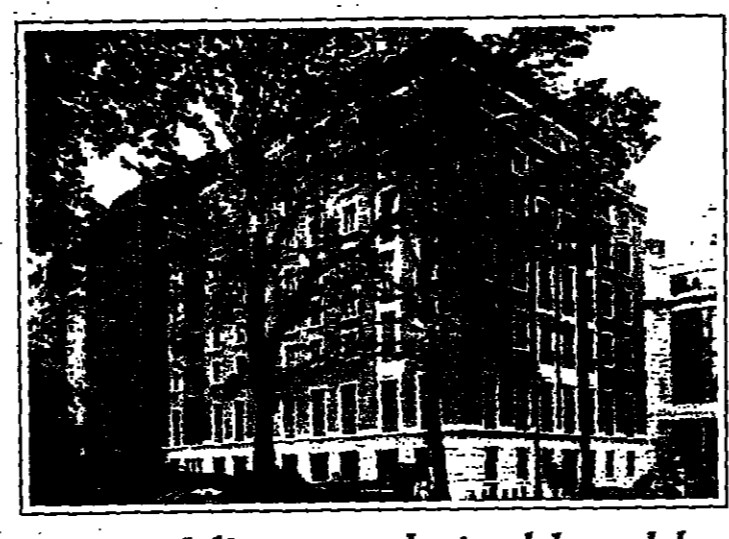
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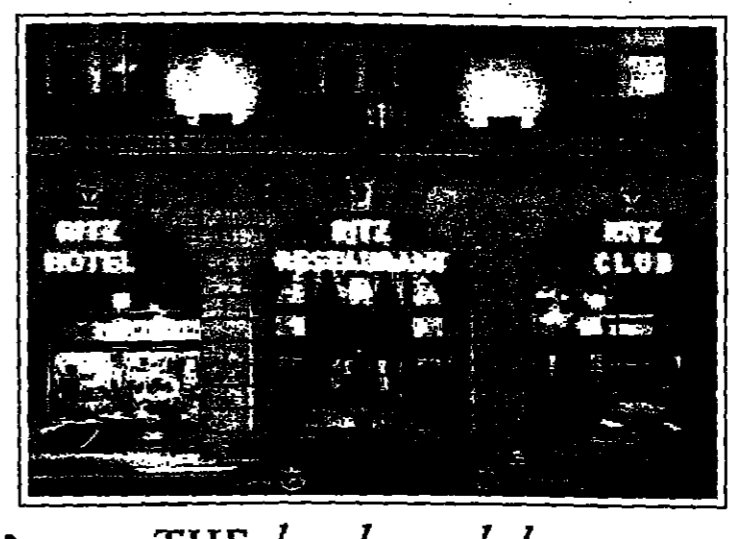
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2 PEOPLE & PROPERTY

Christopher Warman examines the cost of the countryside campaign and Sue Herdman second-guesses tax changes by the Chancellor

Will the price of protest be dearer houses?

Housebuilders fear that the Government's decision to set a target of 60 per cent for the proportion of homes to be built on brownfield sites...

Very little housing is built on green belt land. The controversial 10,000-home development proposed on the edge of Stevenage was approved by the local authority only after examining alternatives...

planning has to be a constant flow from the tap. If policies mean that the tap is turned on and off, there will inevitably be a big ramp in prices.

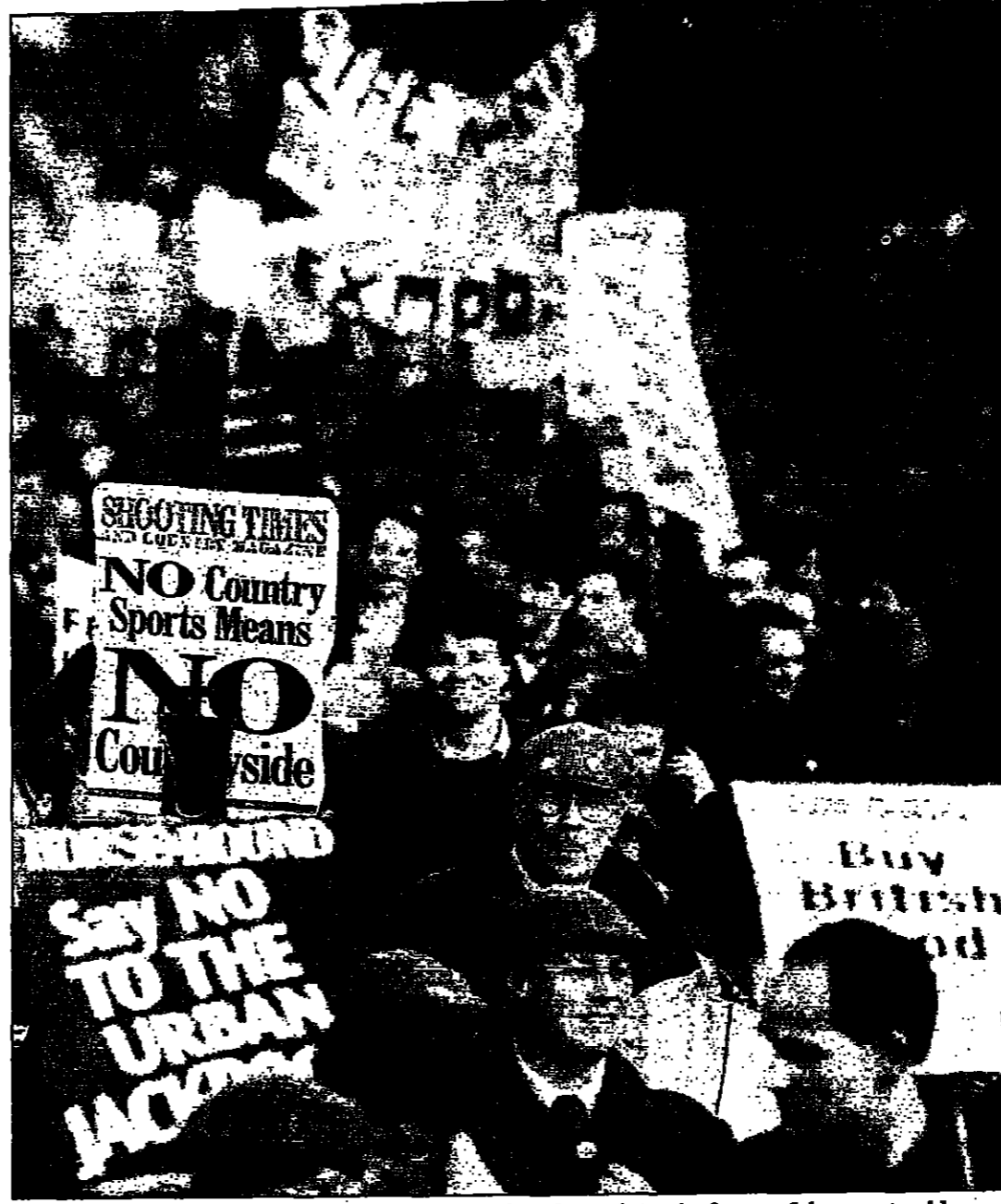


Stevenage: protest over Prescott's green belt decision

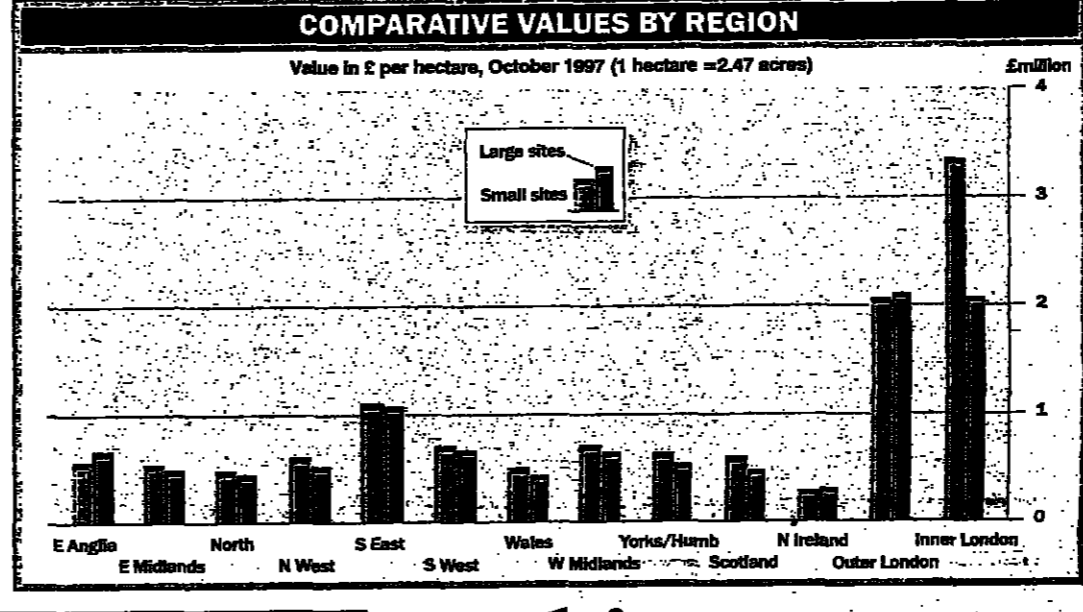
Figures in the Government's White Paper Planning for the Communities of the Future show that for the whole of England the proportion of land for new housing that was previously developed was 46 per cent in the early 1990s, now nearer 50 per cent.

in the Government. "Mr Prescott wants local authorities to implement the policy, and yet many are set against extra development in their areas and are trying to get the required numbers down, while delaying their structure plans," he says.

Mr Cresswell is concerned that the new policy coincides with winding up the Urban Development Corporations. "One thing they were good at was tackling large brownfield sites and streamlining the planning process so that we could get a quicker decision. Without them, the process is likely to slow down," he says.



Campaigners march to Hyde Park to voice their fears about the future of the countryside



AS HALIFAX reports figures showing that house prices remained unchanged last month. Nationwide says that prices went up by more than expected, writes Adam Barnard. Nationwide's figures put the monthly change at 0.7 per cent, with an average price of £62,770.

Real estate listings for North of the Thames, South of the Thames, Fulham, Wandsworth, and City Docklands & East. Includes details for properties in Barchingham, W Hampton, Putney, and Wandsworth.

Real estate listings for Belgravia, Kensington & Chelsea, Highgate, Parklands, and City & West End. Includes details for properties in Belgravia, Kensington & Chelsea, Highgate, Parklands, and City & West End.

Real estate listings for Duncannon, In Your Face Living Space, Cornhill City of London, and Anchor Terrace Apartments. Includes details for properties in Duncannon, In Your Face Living Space, Cornhill City of London, and Anchor Terrace Apartments.

Making a smart move to stay ahead of the Budget

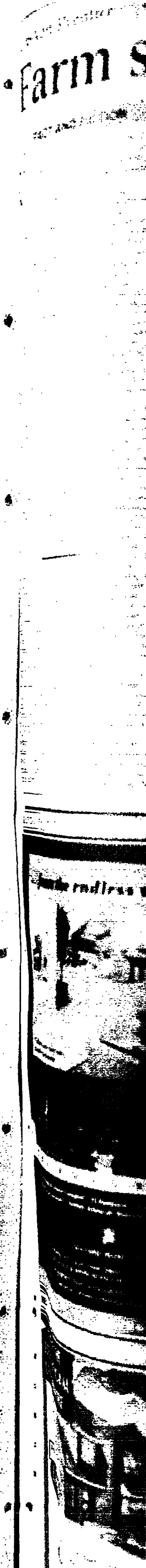
Accountants are warning that the Budget may have strong implications for homeowners. Prime targets are likely to be Capital Gains Tax and Inheritance Tax (IHT).

This could be your chance to act before Gordon Brown closes tax loopholes. Agents are not claiming such a flurry this time around. Homeowners perhaps have been lulled into a sense of security.

of CGT, it could set a trend away from the typically English home-owning culture to the European mindset of renting. Accountants and agents are unanimous on one count of CGT. "Clearly, homeowners worry that their prime home could be affected by changes to CGT, but they are safe on that count," says Mr Whiting.

Chancellor Gordon Brown: Council taxes could rise. The Government has been reviewing this tax, which is currently relevant only to a second home, while the principle residence has relief. As yet that review is not complete.

Stamp Duty, says Mr MacKay, "will stay the same for now; they had a go at it last summer and it would be an unpopular move to change it again." Stamp Duty, says Mr MacKay, "will stay the same for now; they had a go at it last summer and it would be an unpopular move to change it again."



Eve-Ann Prentice reports on a topical *Archers* storyline that has provoked a real-life reaction from developers

# Farm soap sets builders foaming

## FACT AND FICTION

**R**adio's 4s everyday story of country folk, *The Archers*, stands accused by the nation's builders of making a crisis out of the drama.

Lynda Snell, the shrill-voiced owner of Ambridge Hall, is being portrayed in the series as one of the chief campaigners against a development of 12 "executive-style" houses that will spoil the view from her home.

Outline planning permission has been sought by a group of speculative landowners, including the gung ho and wealthy Brian Aldridge.

Now the BBC has made what it says are "minor changes" to the script after complaints from the House Builders Federation. The organisation is infuriated by the storyline, saying that in real life none of its members would touch such a development because it stands absolutely no chance of obtaining planning permission.

The federation, whose members build 80 per cent of all new houses in England and Wales, accuses the BBC of "trying to create a controversial storyline where one, in reality, does not exist".

Marc Cranfield-Adams, a spokesman for the federation, says: "The *Archers* storyline is a non-starter. As we have heard it, an application for outline planning permission is being sought by speculative landowners on a piece of land divorced from the rest of the village... rejection would be made at the first hurdle."

The site involved in the *Archers* plot on the landscape is at Sawyer's Farm and lies next to the River Am. Borchester District Council would allocate land for housing "either on a derelict site within the village or on the edge of the village, certainly not divorced from the settlement as currently proposed," the federation says.

It also says the Environment Agency would not be happy about homes being built next to the river because of the risk of flooding.

The fictional tussle in *The Archers* between villagers and profit-hungry developers comes amid growing unease among country-dwellers that vast stretches of rural land will be covered in concrete and housing estates in the next few years to provide homes for the next generation.

"Britain's countryside is not about to be concreted over, neither are our members cash-crazed rural vandals," says Mr Cranfield-Adams.

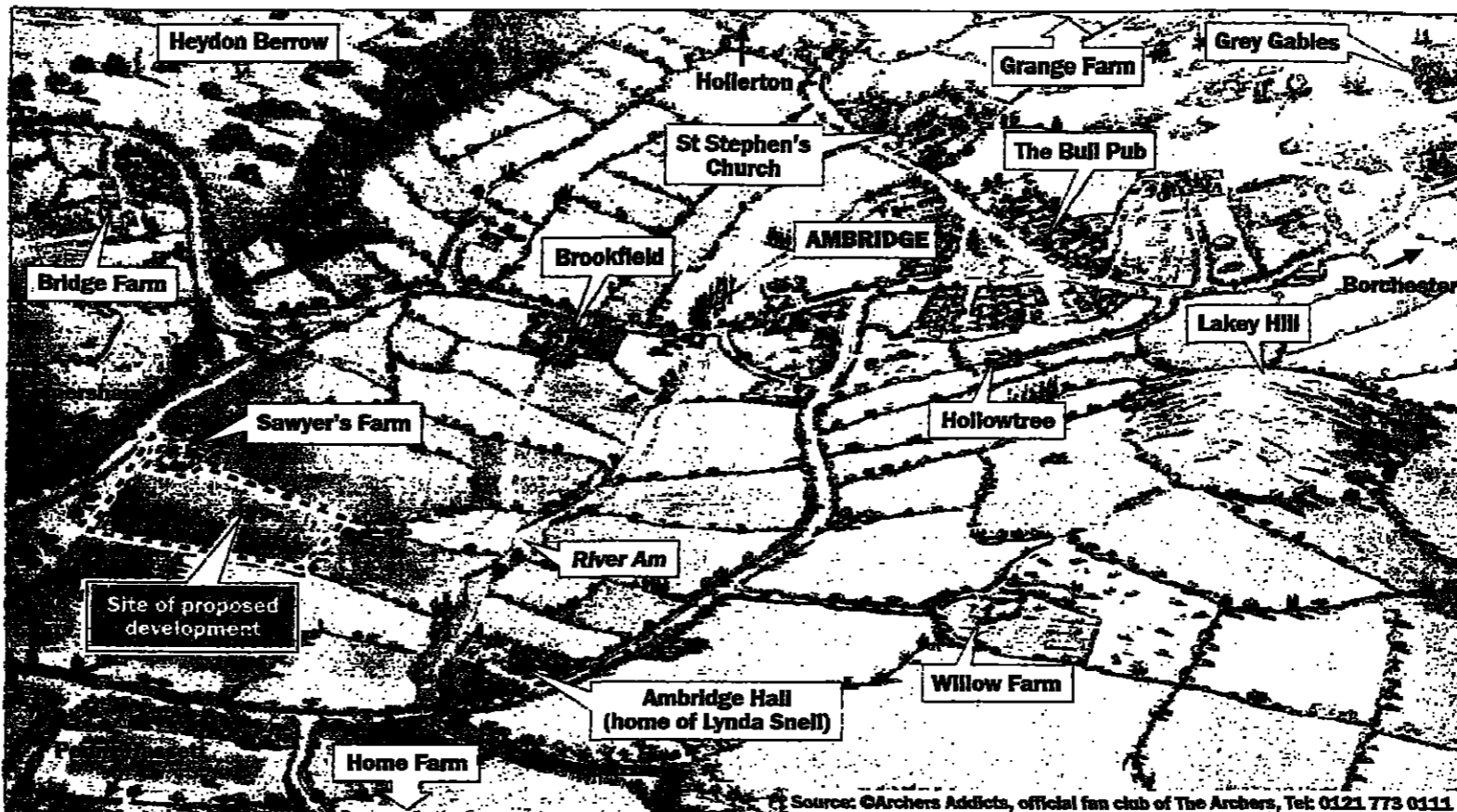
"The deliberately misleading impression that thousands of square miles of Britain's rightly cherished heritage is under threat from house-building can be totally discounted," he says, "for the simple reason that we have a largely urbanised population, most of whom rely on living in or near existing urban areas because jobs, shops, schools, leisure amenities and public transport are in such areas."

"Moreover, the economics of developing in the countryside as opposed to on the edge of towns means that no house-builder would be foolish enough to consider attempting to do so."

"The cost of roads, sewers, electricity, gas, water and other utilities which are unrelated to existing urban services would be so disproportionate when set against the limited demand for such houses, it would be a sure recipe for bankruptcy."

This is likely to be the last thing Brian Aldridge wants to hear as he tries to wrestle with the problems of tax bills, a pregnant unmarried daughter and a spendthrift wife, Jennifer.

A spokesman for *The Archers* was unrepentant. "We have made minor changes to the script, but the story goes ahead as we researched and



**'We are not rural vandals'**

planned it. We have taken the opportunity to add a few words to one sentence in a script being edited."

Mr Cranfield-Adams, meanwhile, says he is an avid listener to the series and would relish a walk-on part to meet Lynda Snell. "I listen to the omnibus edition every Sunday morning and I have heard nothing so far which suggests that the BBC is doing anything other than ploughing on with its original storyline."

Hedli Niklaus of *Archers Addicts*, the programme's official fan club, says: "In the *Borchester Echo*, Lynda Snell is quoted as saying 'I shall fight this plan tooth and nail!'"

"While amused by her audacity, most *Archers Addicts* will support her in their own attempt to retain a nostalgic hold on the Ambridge of their imaginations."

© *Archers Addicts*, official fan club of *The Archers*, can be contacted on 0121-773 0111.



Lynda Snell (Carole Boyd) and Brian Aldridge (Charles Collingwood) are rivals in a planning row in *The Archers*

## SHAKERS MOVERS

● The West Yorkshire home of the bandmaster on the *Titanic* is up for sale, writes Katherine Bergen. Legend has it that Wallace Hartley and his group played *Nearer My God To Thee* as they went down with the ship. Certainly, they all gave up their lives in playing to comfort the passengers. The five-bedroom house in Dewsbury is for sale at £57,000 with William H. Brown.

● Fourth Green in Sandwich, Kent, where King Edward and Wallis Simpson had their royal trysts, is for sale with Colebrook Sturrock for £350,000. Sir Nigel Ross Playfair used to lend it to the couple and the King would also play a round of golf at the Royal St George's, which is immediately next to the house. The four-bedroom house is on the private Sandwich Bay estate.

● Mike Sweeney, who for 17 years has been a DJ on Manchester's Piccadilly Radio, has been headhunted to Capital Gold and so has rented a 900 square foot studio flat in Butlers' Wharf, south-east London, overlooking the Thames.

● Although she will for ever be associated with the fictitious Tara in the film *Gone With The Wind*, Vivien Leigh's former home is up for sale with Savills for £1.2 million. Woodlands Manor, built in the mid-14th century, has a great hall, minstrels' gallery, five bedrooms and a tennis court in 12 acres of garden.

● Park House, the former home of the author John Cowper Powys in Montacute, Somerset, is for sale for £425,000. Powys, who died in 1963 at the age of 91, ranks with Hobbes, Lancelotti and Bernard Shaw among the longest-lived English writers. He wrote more than 30 books of fiction, poetry and essays. The four-bedroom house is situated in a conservation area.

● Arundell House, which Rudyard Kipling used to rent, has come on the market with Savills. The property — in Tisbury, Wiltshire, where Kipling's parents lived — has five bedrooms, and offers in the region of £450,000 are invited.

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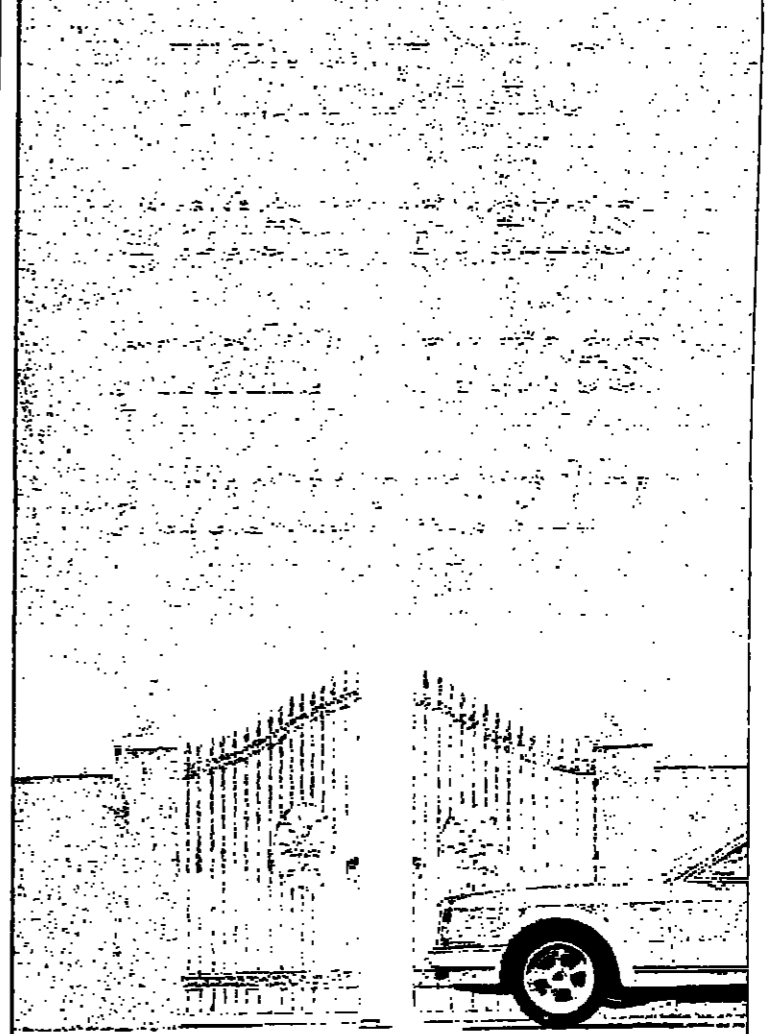
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THE NEXT MILLENNIUM

Where — and of what — will the next century's homes be built?

William Blake has inspired generations of men and women since he wrote of England's green and pleasant land. Now, 190 years later, the rural spot where he spent three years before writing *Jerusalem* is at the heart of a rural rebellion aimed at keeping the concrete jungle at bay.

Blake lived in Felpham in what is now West Sussex, a county which has locked horns with the Government over demands that the council should build more homes to meet the housing needs of the future.

It is the core of a national dilemma: can enough homes be provided for the next generation without burying huge swathes of countryside under building sites and new roads?

But should the rights of a privileged few who want to keep the countryside to themselves override the needs of growing numbers of people who face being crammed into overcrowded cities? On the other hand, would concentrating development in urban areas lead to a new era of vitality in rundown town and city centres?

It was fears about new housing estates blotting the landscape, as well as the threat to ban

# Battle lines in our green and pleasant land

foxhunting, which drew the 275,000 who marched through London earlier this month in defence of the rural way of life.

Two weeks ago, John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, announced that 60 per cent of new homes should be built on urban land in the future. Labour had previously said that new housing should be split equally between town and country.

The change of heart is aimed at saving some of the 650 square miles of English countryside which would probably have been swallowed up to make room for more than two million new houses in the next 20 years. Almost half the land lost would have been in the South-East and South-West.

Future housing needs were predicted by the former Conservative Government, which declared that 4.4 million new homes would be needed between 1991 and 2016. The figure was based on the assumption that there will be more one-parent families and more people living alone by 2016.

A Green Paper was issued in

1996 which proposed building half these homes on already-developed land, brownfield sites, and half on virgin territory or greenfield sites. However, by the time of the general election last May, the Conservatives promised that 60 per cent would be in urban areas, the figure now adopted by Labour.

Meanwhile, most county councils in England were asked to plan for a certain number of homes to be built in their areas. West Sussex was asked to build 48,750 new homes by 2006. The county council argued that such a huge increase would cause serious environmental damage and successfully won support for a reduction to 42,200 at an independent inquiry last summer. Then, in December, Mr Prescott ordered an increase of 12,800 in the number of new homes planned in the county — an edict which is likely to be challenged in the courts.

West Sussex County Council is being supported by the Council for

the Protection of Rural England, which wants 75 per cent of the homes planned by 2016 to be built on brownfield sites. One authority which has caused the CPRE deep dismay, however, is Hertfordshire, which said it needed to build 10,000 new homes on the green belt west of Stevenage to help meet its planning targets. Mr Prescott was criticised by environmentalists when he agreed in January to release the green belt land.

Planning future homes is undertaken at national and local level. Local authorities are given targets after consultation with eight government-run regional offices, and this is known as Regional Planning Guidance. County councils meanwhile issue Structure Plans every four or five years which look forward 15 to 20 years.

When central and local government disagree, an Examination in Public is usually held, where an independent panel of one or two planning experts holds a public



William Blake inspiration

newly-concreted countryside or less derelict land, fewer empty homes and an improved quality of life in our towns and cities?" asks Tony Burton, the council's assistant director.

"We are extremely disappointed about the Government's lack of intervention over Stevenage," he says. "We have John Prescott saying the right thing but doing the wrong thing. By regenerating towns you get the added benefit of cutting traffic. We are not going to protect cities by making them worse places to live."

Paradoxically, Blake moved away from his rural haven to live in London, and set about writing the words to *Jerusalem*. The verses which have swollen the hearts of generations of country churchgoers are part of a much longer poem dedicated to Milton, which took five years to complete.

The work carries a subtitle which seems apposite to today's planning debate: "To justify the ways of God and men."

EVE-ANN PRENTICE

Eve-Ann Prentice meets the family who love living in an eco-friendly earth shelter

EARTH HOUSE

Jonathan Black has gone underground in an attempt to stick to his principles. He and his wife have built a home sunk into the earth as their contribution to offsetting urban sprawl in Britain.

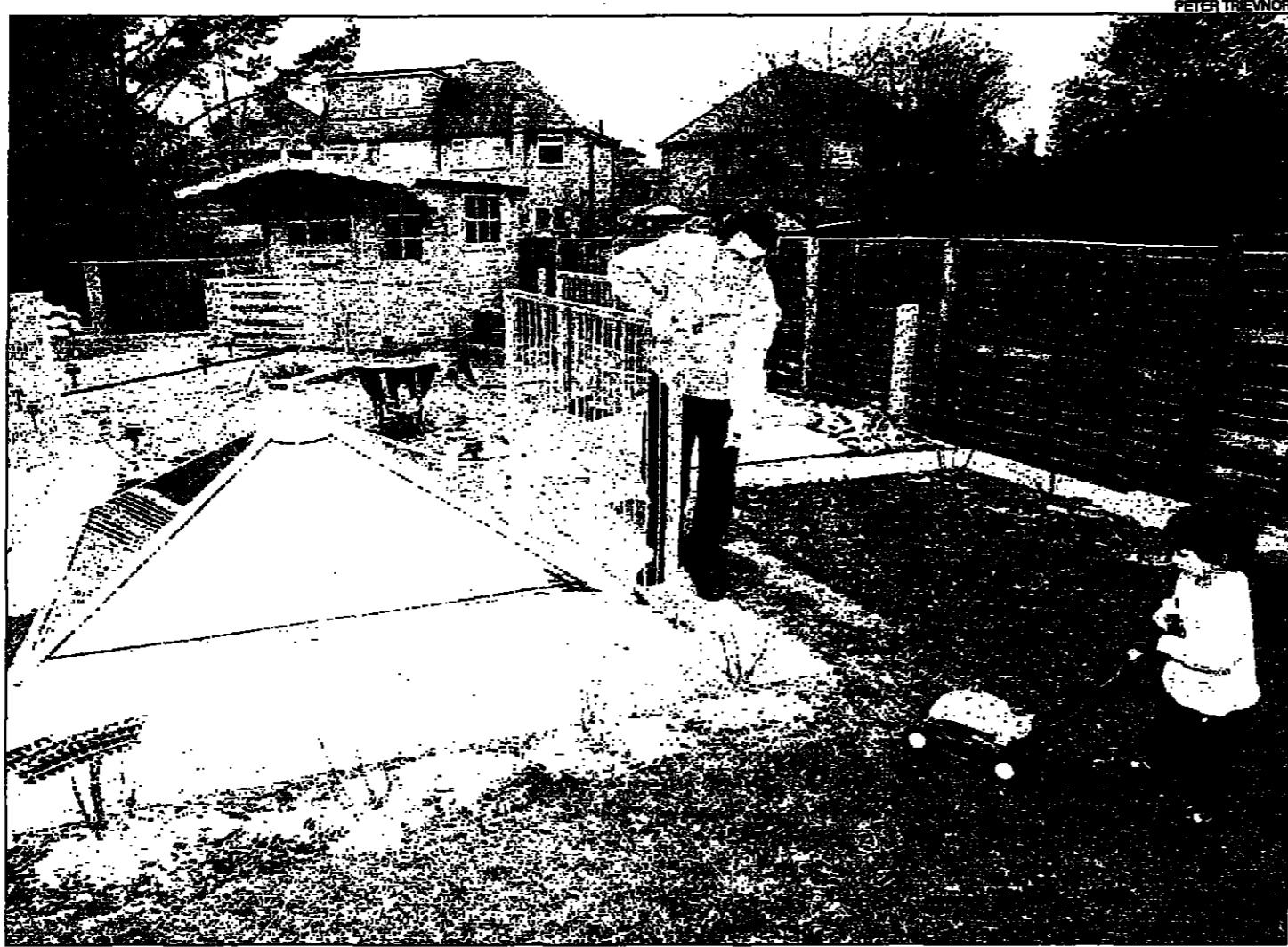
But they are not Swampy-style figures and they do not live in self-imposed hardship like protesters from the Red Rec in *Coronation Street*. Jonathan Black is a rabbi and his home is a stylish house in one of the most salubrious corners of the Home Counties.

"Judaism gives us the imperative to look after the planet and we believe that this is a real solution where green belts are under threat," says Rabbi Black. The four-bedroom, three-bathroom home in Bushey Heath, Hertfordshire, is a pioneering example of what may be the fashion of the future. Subterranean houses — known as earth shelters — are seen as a way of providing unobtrusive homes in pastoral landscapes.

"It makes a wonderful living environment," says Rabbi Black. "We have two patios, which give natural light to all the rooms except the bathrooms — rather like a basement flat but better. The quality of light coming from above is wonderful, and when it snows and there is reflected light. It is a fantastic experience."

The house was designed with the help of a local architect, Rabbi Black and his wife Susan moved in two years ago and their daughter, Naomi, was born a year ago.

"We wanted to build our own home and I read about earth shelters in a magazine, while trying to decide on designs. Before that I had not even heard of them," he



Jonathan Black and daughter Naomi outside the sheltered accommodation in his garden, and the view of life below ground



'This is a real solution where green belts are under threat'

says. "It is very energy-efficient and cheap to heat, the temperature is very stable. The first winter that we were here, we tended to look outside and assume the weather was mild because it was so warm indoors. Then we would go out without putting on enough warm clothing. We solved that by putting a thermometer against an outside window."

The Black home is one of 12 earth-sheltered houses currently occupied in Britain, and five more are nearing completion at Newark near Nottingham. Sherwood District Council granted planning permission for the three-bedroom houses to be built on (or rather, under) green belt land in a move which may set a precedent for other local authorities. The homes are completely hidden from view except for a south-facing conservatory which runs the length of each house. They are not connected to any mains services and will use rainwater, which is to be collected, filtered and recycled after use. Power will be generated by a wind turbine.

One of the leading champions of earth-sheltered housing is John Littlewood, who is researching the subject at the University of Gla-

morgan. "These houses blend into their immediate surroundings and offer other benefits such as quiet internal environments, no draughts and few external surfaces to maintain," he says. "They are far more efficient than conventional houses and with little or no heating, retain internal temperatures of 20C all year round." Light is usually provided through glass-covered domes.

Mr Littlewood, who is also regional officer of the British Earth-Sheltering Association, is trying to find a site in Monmouth to develop

'They are far more efficient than normal housing, needing little heat'

between five and ten earth-sheltered homes, and has won the backing of the Ecology Building Society in Keighley, West Yorkshire, which provides mortgages for "ecologically sound" houses. "Quite a few have been built to get round planning regulations, then people become gurus when they realise how good they are," says Mr Littlewood.

"Most people in the world of architecture and planning are very sceptical at first. I can understand why — they think of a cave, dark and damp, but these houses are very comfortable."

Mr Littlewood believes there may be problems implementing the Government's new policy of building 60 per cent of new homes on urban land, because brownfield sites earmarked for development are often in parts of a city where people do not want to live. Finding a way of providing unobtrusive homes in the countryside can help to keep everyone happy, he says.

Earth-sheltered buildings are not new; they have been used for thousands of years by the Chinese, Japanese and Americans. There are around 6,000 in the US, 1,000 in Australia and a few hundred in Europe.

# Green little pigs eschew sticks and bricks

STRAW HOUSE

People in glass houses shouldn't throw stones. Those in grass houses, meanwhile, would do well to avoid anything with the word "flamable" written on it.

But despite the obvious hazard — last October a woman and her three children died when fire ripped through the straw walls of their Glasgow flat — the fad for this ancient construction technique is gathering strength.

Its supporters say it is cheap, energy-efficient and environmentally friendly. Building houses from straw, a system that pre-dates the medieval era, fulfils most of the green lobby's criteria for homes of the future.

Barbara Jones, 40, runs Amazon Nails, an all-women building firm in Todmorden, West Yorkshire. She and her team specialise in straw-bale construction, offering lectures, seminars and what she calls hands-on assistance.

"There is a great capacity for creativity with straw: it lets you build the shape and space you want," she says. "It offers good insulation and its organic nature makes it pleasing to the eye."

Though the concept is as old as the tale of the three little pigs, the first resurgence of interest in straw housing came with the invention of a mechanical baling machine at the turn of the century in America. The process allowed straw to be compacted to a density and regularity previously impossible.

The first recorded straw-bale building, a schoolhouse in Nebraska constructed in 1886, is still standing. Ms Jones says growing environmental awareness has prompted landowners to take up pitchforks and bales once again.

Brian Stinchcombe, 52, lives in a straw-bale house in Cwmdu, mid-Wales. He says the house, which he built with his son and friends

after a three-day workshop led by Ms Jones, has solved not only his housing problems, but health-related ones as well. Having divorced and lost much of his land in 1994, Mr Stinchcombe lived in two caravans. Soon he had developed pneumonia. Straw offered him a housing solution he could afford (the home cost about £20,000 to build), and his new home is damp-free.

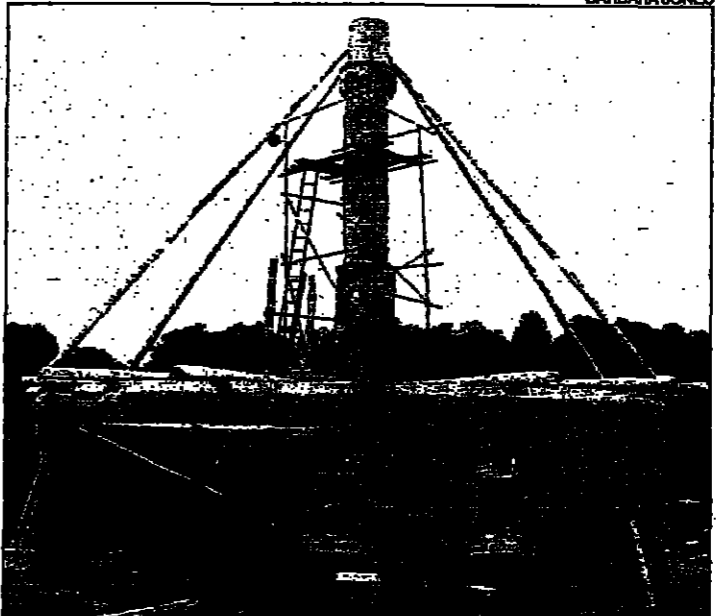
Last year Peter and Jane Wright built a straw house next to their more conventional brick home in Marshfield, Gloucestershire. Both environmental campaigners, Mr and Mrs Wright had to get past sceptical planning authorities, who cited the ease with which a wolf, left alone the wind, might raze the building.

"Once we had convinced them, they were very enthusiastic," says Mr Wright. They paid £175 for straw bales and spent a weekend constructing a two-storey timber frame. The bales were coated with lime to prevent fire.

Straw has even made an appearance in the upper ends of the market. In May construction will begin on a straw house in Islington, London, near the Caledonian Road. The three-bedroom home, on derelict railway land, is expected to cost £220,000 to build. Landowners and architecture professors Jeremy Till and Sarah Wigglesworth aim to illustrate the feasibility of a "green" lifestyle.

Ms Jones says that aside from making comfortable homes that often outlive their builders, the process is instructive. "We aim for the demystification of construction. People who would never ordinarily think about building can learn. It is an empowering process — and good fun."

ADAM BARNARD  
Amazon Nails: 01706-814 696  
BARBARA JONES



A circular straw house, with centre chimney, takes shape in Eire

# Branching out

A LONDON architect, Steven Johnson, is looking aloft for inspiration. In conjunction with engineers Ove Arup & Partners, he has designed a prototype tree house. Mr Johnson is now trying to find funding to build what he has dubbed the Forest House.

"The development costs would be between £500,000 and £1 million, but we want to sell the homes for £80,000 to £100,000 each," he says. The original idea was to provide refuge and re-

search facilities for reforestation crews working in remote parts of Scotland. Now Mr Johnson would like to develop his idea to provide homes all over the country, including in fruit orchards.

In the original design, living and working accommodation is suspended high above the forest floor. "The first enclosed level is at 25 metres (82ft), with the bulk of the building suspended on six laminated-timber trunk-like columns," says Mr Johnson.

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Harrods

Restoring period homes can cost a fortune. Stephen Brennan on how a copycat method helped a Victorian door to find its former glory

# Giving a door a heavenly touch of glass

When Susan Phillips bought her Victorian terraced house, which is officially on the Greenwich meridian line, she decided to restore the stained glass in the front door to its previous glory. But she did not know how complicated the plan could become until she called in an expert who knew how to cut corners. I became aware of the project when Ms Phillips and Yolanda Kirby, a stained glass designer, knocked at my house asking permission to make sketches of the original stained glass in my front door, so that they could develop ideas.

This style of stained glass for domestic use was first produced by the Aesthetic Movement. It was popular in the 1880s and extended through to the Edwardian era. Ms Phillips, a manager of Catford, southeast London, made a false start with one glass company which she felt did not have the expertise to do the job authentically, before discovering Ms Kirby, who is based nearby in Greenwich.

Ms Phillips says: "At first I wanted the old frosted glass removed from above the door and reproduction Muranesque put in, but Yolanda said I would become tired of it quickly and convinced me that it would be better to have the original-style stained glass reinstated. The top three square panels on the door and the two long panels at the side of the door are original. They were all removed and renovated. Yolanda had to make up the two middle door

panels and the top central panel. The reeded glass has slightly wider ridges than the original, but it hardly shows. The quality of the reproduction glass is not as good as the original because the light does not twinkle so much as it filters through, but it is still lovely. I thought that having stained glass all through would be a bit over the top but the finished door looks like a beautiful picture."

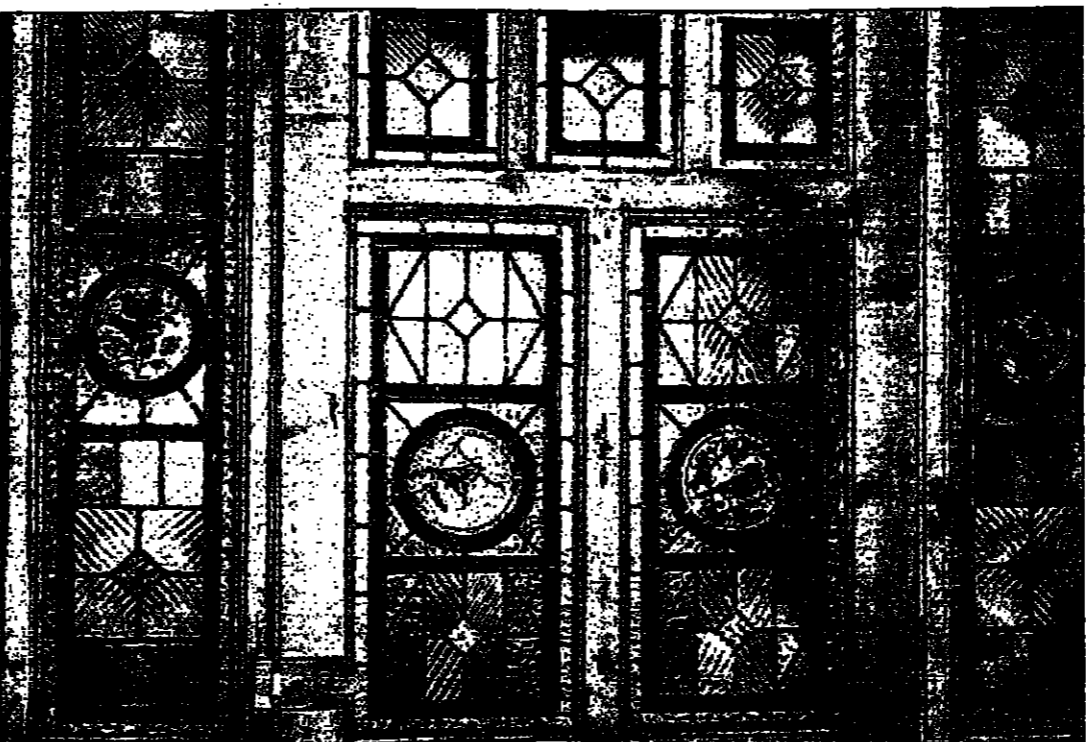
Two of the bird designs were painted on glass by Ms Kirby in her studio and fired in a kiln. The restoration of the side panels, the construction of the centre door panels and the large panel above — incorporating the house number — cost about £800. But the stained glass effect can be achieved at a much lower cost.

Ms Phillips had a kitchen door fitted with stained-glass effect panels. The top panel is a simple Victorian design with just two colours, using glass which cost £40. It is quick, easy and cheap to construct but when the light hits it from behind the effect is very impressive.

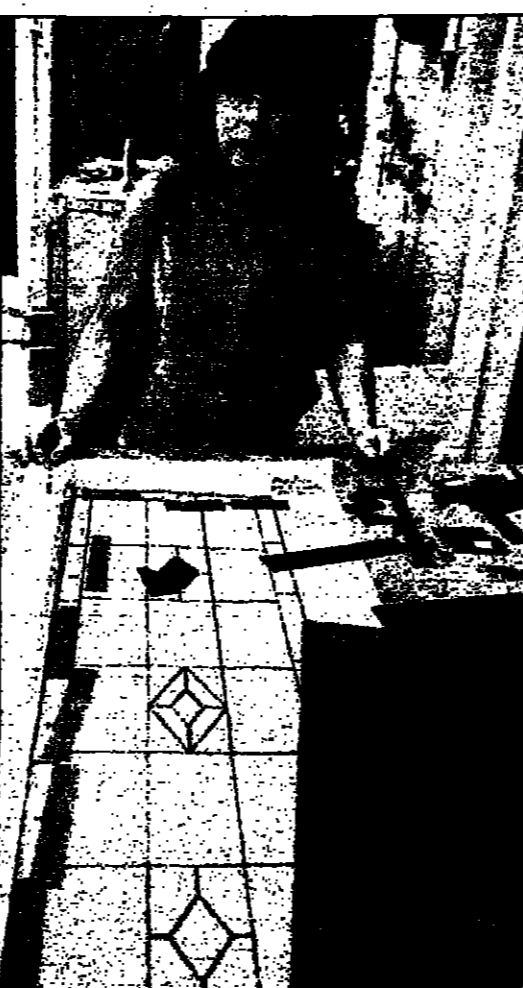
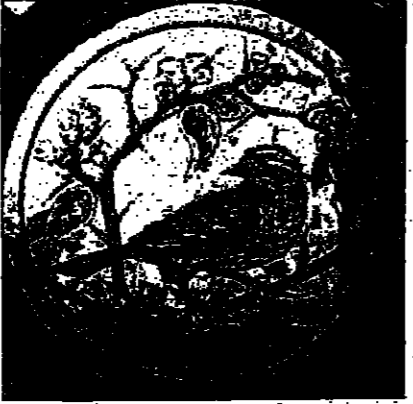
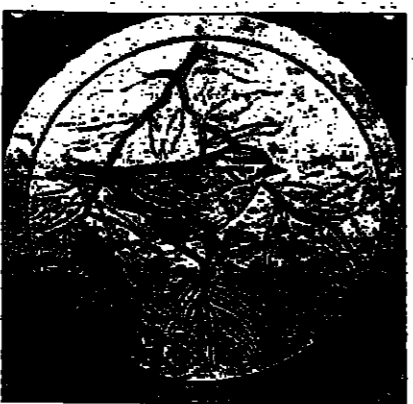
The most economical way to get coloured glass is to use stick-on, transparent plastic strips. Ms Kirby does not recommend this as the finish often looks garish, but it can be a quick way, for example, to liven up a child's bedroom.

Ms Kirby says demand for stained glass has grown considerably in the past five years. Many of her customers are pleased with her original designs, but she is happy to do copycat restoration work to order.

Yolanda Kirby: 0181-858 3899



Above: the stained-glass panels in the finished door. Below: Ms Kirby at work, the original door, and Ms Phillips adding a final touch. Far left: two details



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Shona Crawford Poole looks at the advantages of close-care and very sheltered housing, and advises how to choose the right facility

# Retired, but firmly in charge of their future

Sycamore Court in Oxted, Surrey, has a waiting list of more than 100. As I lunched there last week with Ron Cutts, aged 80, and one of the owner-directors, it was not hard to see why so many retired people want to live there.

The dining room's reproduction Georgian tables were set with sparkling glasses and heavy white napkins. Around 30 of the 42 residents sat down to enjoy a choice of fish pie, scampi or trout, with soup or juice to start, and warm custard tart to finish. Conversation rose from every table.

It was only when coffee was served in the lounge and people began dispersing — some with the help of walking sticks and wheelchairs — that the frailties which had led them to choose to live here became apparent.

They have spacious self-contained flats, the help they need to live independent lives, plus the availability of meals and company in well-furnished communal areas. Residents own their homes, appoint a board of directors from among themselves and employ the staff who work for them.

The last one-bedroom flat to come on the market at Sycamore Court fetched £120,000. When it was new, five years ago, it sold for £98,000. While most residents buy their leasehold flats outright, and have sufficient income to pay the £70 a week service charge, a proportion rely on interest-only mortgages for up to £40,000 of the purchase price, and state benefits to meet the service cost.

Compared with the cost of residential home fees, which nationally average £340 a week, or nursing home fees of £365 a week, the service charges do not seem such a high price to pay for independence. The term used to describe this

type of scheme is close care or very sheltered housing. But beware, there is no universal language in the sheltered housing world. Some developments comprise a mix of flats and houses in close proximity to a residential nursing home. Prices vary greatly with location, degree of luxury and the service packaged offered.

At Cerne Abbas Manor in Dorset, developed by the Highcare Group, a one-bedroom flat in a converted Victorian workhouse, which also contains a nursing home, costs £58,000 leasehold, and care services range from £75 a week, to £325 a week for full nursing.

Sycamore Court was built by Bovis and is one of 22 purpose-built schemes managed by Retirement Security Ltd. Its waiting list strongly suggests that it provides an attractive solution to the age-old problem of how to preserve independence into extreme old age.

Mr Cutts, a retired civil engineer, has no doubts that close care offers a better long-term answer than more traditional sheltered housing schemes that have only a warden to call on in an emergency.

"My wife, Laura, and I were rattling around like peas in a drum in our family house in Coulsdon," he says. "We spent three years looking at sheltered housing all over the country. Many retirement housing schemes were beautiful places and had lovely grounds, but they weren't near shops, a station or a library.



Home comforts: Ron Cutts in the communal lounge with Gill Daniels, the senior housekeeper, and, below, with his wife, Laura, in their flat

amazing. It is not a place where people come to fade away. It has given us the freedom to do things that we could not have done before. My wife has osteoporosis, and my heart is not too good, but this place has given us a new lease of life."

Sycamore Court has a staff of 20 housekeepers and assistant housekeepers, all of whom are non-resident and most of whom work part-time.

**'This is not a place where people come to fade away'**

"We make no distinction between personal care and domestic help. We will do everything for owners that a close relative or friend would do, including bathing, and help with dressing," says senior housekeeper Gill Daniels. "We will look after everything except clinical care, which the GP or community nurse takes responsibility for through the National Health Service.

"The service charge covers 2½ hours of care per week, of which 1½ hours is in the owner's apartment, and one hour is for the communal areas. For owners who need additional care, whether personal or

domestic, we can provide it an additional charge of £5.18 an hour (£5.74 an hour at night). And because staff are on the spot, help is available immediately."

Close care was pioneered by Bob Bessell, a former director of social services for Warwickshire and now the managing director of Retirement Security. "Our buildings are designed to wheelchair standard throughout — even though only a small proportion of residents will ever need wheelchairs. That means larger rooms, wider corridors, big bathrooms and kitchens.

"The availability of food on the premises is essential and does more to keep people out of hospital than anything else."

One measure of how well close care supports the elderly is that 97 per cent of residents have been able to stay in their own homes until they die. Compare this with one in four people over the age of 85 who are living in a residential or nursing home or long-stay hospital.



- ### CHECKLIST
- RETIREMENT housing can be bought or rented. When buying a sheltered retirement home, with a warden and alarm system, or close care (very sheltered housing), some of the points to consider are these:
- Could you still live there if, at a later date, you needed a wheelchair? Check size of rooms, including bathrooms and kitchens, access to the building and mobility within to reach all communal facilities. Are there lifts to upper floors?
  - Distance and access to shops, library, post office, bank, doctor and transport.
  - Ask for evidence of how easy it will be to sell. Check resale terms and commissions. Is an up-to-date waiting list kept? Have resold properties held or increased their market value? How quickly have they sold?
  - Check if service and maintenance charges are pegged to inflation and how they may be varied. Ask exactly what they cover.
  - Check what say residents have in the running of the scheme, the services provided and the appointment of managing agents.
  - Consult a solicitor before signing any agreement to purchase.
  - Advice and guidance on all forms of retirement housing throughout the UK is available from the Elderly Accommodation Counsel, a registered charity, at 46a Chiswick High Road, London W4 1SZ. Telephone 0181 995 8320.
  - Retirement Security, 40 Rother Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 6LP. Telephone 01789 292952.
  - Highcare Group, 8 The Grazings, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP2 5JN. Telephone 01442 212200.

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Sales Offices Open Daily from 10.00am to 5.00pm  
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HOMES

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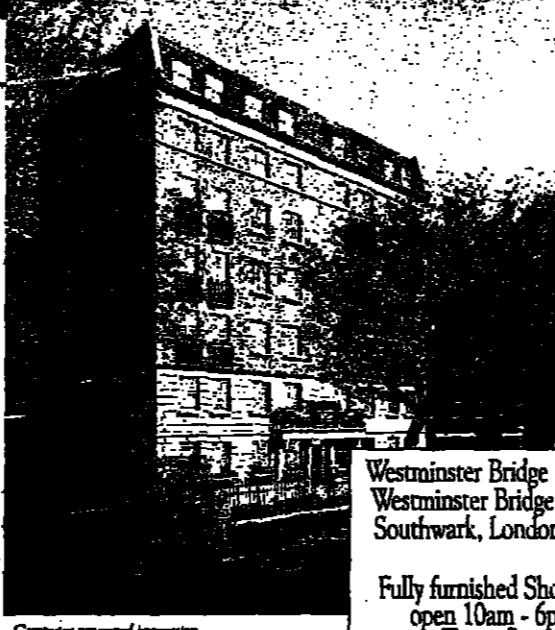
LONDON AND THE SOUTH EAST  
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Westminster Bridge House, Westminster Bridge Road, Southwark, London SE1.

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3 bedrooms, 3 bathroom houses from £199,995  
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- Tel: 01273 818479

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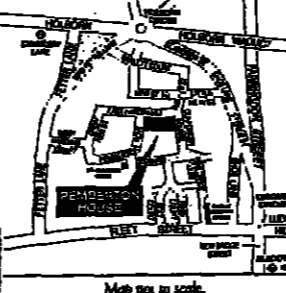


Such has been the success of Pemberton House that there are now just five stunning City apartments left. Come and see us and admire the location, style and quality of this unique Barratt development, just round the corner from Fleet Street in the heart of the Capital.

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47% ALREADY RESERVED FROM PLAN.

LONDON EC4

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  - AYLESBURY, Bucks, 2 bed houses from £84,995. Tel 01296 334427
  - BRENTWOOD, Essex, 1 bed apartments from £58,995. Tel 01277 251515
  - BRIGHTON MARINA, 2, 3 bed apartments from £89,995. Tel 01273 818479
  - CANBERLEY, Surrey, 3, 4 & 5 bed houses from £125,995. Tel 01276 27231
  - CARPENDERS PARK, Herts, 2, 3 & 4 bed houses from £120,995. Tel 01411 428 5916
  - CASNALTON, Surrey, 3 bed townhouses from £174,995. Tel 01811 775 1794

- CHAFFORD HUNDRED, Essex, 1, 2, 3 & 4 bed houses from £39,995. Tel 01325 682822
- CHELMSFORD, Essex, 2, 3 & 4 bed houses from £82,995. Tel 01285 699949
- COBHAM, Surrey, 2 bed apartments and 3 bed houses from £129,995. Tel 01932 863507
- CHADWELL ST MARY, Essex, 2, 3 & 4 bed houses from £24,995. Tel 01325 659999
- CHURCH LANGLEY, Essex, 2, 3 & 4 bed houses from £74,995. Tel 01279 029517
- COLCHESTER, Essex, 2 bed houses from £54,995. Tel 01206 662688
- COGGESHALL, Essex, 2, 4 & 5 bed houses from £91,995. Tel 01326 562582
- CROXLEY GREEN, Herts, 1, 2 & 3 bed houses from £79,995. Tel 01923 234490

- CROYDON, Surrey, 2 bed apartments and 3 bed houses from £88,995. Tel 0181 681 9798
- EGHAM, Surrey, 4 & 5 bed detached houses from £219,995. Tel 01754 672896
- FARSLEY, Surrey, 3 bed 180's houses from £149,995. Tel 0181 861 9530
- FRIER-BARNET, Middlesex, 1 & 2 bed apartments and 2, 3 & 4 bed houses from £94,995. Tel 0181 861 9530
- GUILDFORD, Surrey, 2 bed apartments and 3 bed houses from £129,995. Tel 01483 539216
- HARLOW, Essex, 2 & 3 bed houses from £249,995. Tel 01279 425127
- HAYES, Middlesex, 1 & 2 bed apartments, 3 bed houses from £67,995. Tel 0181 573 2520

- HOUNSLOW, Middlesex, 1 & 2 bed apartments from £82,995. Tel 0181 814 1730
- LONDON E7, Forest Gate, 2 & 3 bed houses from £99,995. Tel 0181 422 8139
- LONDON E8, Walthamstow, 2 & 3 bed houses from £99,995. Tel 0171 759 1188
- LONDON E14, Isle of Dogs, 1, 2 & 3 bed houses from £149,995. Tel 0171 538 9538
- LONDON E14, Limehouse, 1, 2 & 3 bed apartments and 4 bed houses from £189,995. Tel 0171 531 9116
- LONDON E6, Beckton, 1 & 2 bed apartments and 3 bed houses from £99,995. Tel 0181 532 5555
- LONDON SE1, Southwark, 2 & 3 bed apartments from £249,995. Tel 0171 261 1946
- LONDON SE26, Beckenham, 1 & 2 bed apartments and 3 bed houses from £73,995. Tel 0181 663 1871

- LONDON SW17, Wandsworth, 3 & 4 bed townhouses from £247,500. Tel 0181 682 0913
- LONDON SE28, Thamesmead, 2 & 3 bed houses from £74,995. Tel 0181 512 1102
- LONDON W12, Brynawater, 1, 2 & 3 bed apartments from £104,995. Tel 0181 687 1919
- LONDON W13, Ealing, 1 & 2 bed apartments from £94,995. Tel 0181 840 4246
- MALDON, Essex, 2, 3 & 4 bed houses from £59,995. Tel 01421 843010
- MASCOT WOOD, Herts, Executive detached houses from £294,995. Tel 01923 228765
- PICCOLT'S END, Herts, Luxury apartments & cottages from £149,995. Tel 01442 238233
- RAYLEIGH, Essex, 3 & 4 bed houses from £104,995. Tel 01284 786547
- REDHILL, Surrey, 2 bed apartments from £97,995. Tel 01737 771529

- RUSTINGTON, W Sussex, 2, 3 & 4 bed houses from £79,995. Tel 01903 730436
- SLADE GREEN, Kent, 2 & 3 bed houses from £73,995. Tel 01322 336323
- SOUTHEND, Essex, 3 & 4 bed houses coming soon. Tel 01205 228222
- TONBRIDGE, Kent, 3, 4 & 5 bed houses from £154,500. Tel 01732 351874
- VIRGINIA WATER (N) Surrey, 4, 5 & 6 bed houses from £449,995. Tel 01784 436282
- WICKFORD, Essex, 2, 3 & 4 bed houses from £77,995. Tel 01284 574140

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**Berkshire**  
**Caversham, Reading** £101,950 to £106,950  
**Abbotsmead.** The last opportunity to reserve a retirement property on this development of 56 apartments close to the River Thames.  
 Please Call our Regional Office on 01256 814314

**Reading** Price £210,000  
**Alexandra Road.** A pair of 4 bedroom semi-detached town houses in a favoured address near the University. Please Call our Regional Office on 01256 814314

**Buckinghamshire**  
**Iver** Prices from £425,000  
**Richings Copse.** A select development of just three five bedroom detached houses, set in secluded plots of around 1/2 acre. Available for early occupation.  
 Please Call our Regional Office on 01753 211511

**Marlow** Prices from £155,000  
**The Old Brewery.** A development of town houses and 1 and 2 bedroom apartments adjacent to the High Street and near the River Thames. Only 6 apartments now remaining. Please Call our Regional Office on 01753 211511

**Dorset**  
**Sherborne** Price guide £135,000 to £200,000  
**Seymour Cottages.** A delightful courtyard development of eighteen 2, 3 and 4 bedroom cottages close to the centre of this attractive and historic town.  
 Please Call our Regional Office on 01256 814314

**Hampshire**  
**Warrford** £290,000 to £295,000  
**St Johns Gate.** Five individual detached 4 and 5 bedroom homes set in a delightful village location approximately 6 miles from Petersfield.  
 Please Call our Regional Office on 01256 814314

**Herefordshire**  
**Little Gaddesden** Prices from £299,950  
**22 Ashridge Gate.** An exclusive development of just eleven detached 3, 4 and 5 bedroom family homes in the heart of green belt countryside. Just 2 remaining.  
 Please Call our Site Office on 01442 842919

**Kent**  
**Canterbury** £77,500 to £115,000  
**22 St Dunstan's Gate.** Two and three bedroom apartments, and three and four bedroom houses, all with off-street parking and varying internal layouts.  
 Please Call our Site Office on 01227 458474

**Harrow** £173,000 to £245,000  
**22 Gledbe Park.** Seventeen 4 and 5 bedroom detached homes, all with 3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms and garage, located in this delightful Kentish village.  
 Please Call our Site Office on 01622 859289

**Headcorn** £245,000 to £295,000  
**Sherway Park.** A new development of just nine 4 and 5 bedroom detached properties with 3 reception rooms, 2/3 bathrooms and double garage. Sales Office open Thursday to Monday 10am to 5pm.  
 Please Call our Site Office on 01622 891780

**West Kingsdown** £215,000 to £222,000  
**Windmill Grange.** This pretty Kentish village is now also home to five detached family properties, each with 4/5 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms and fitted kitchen/breakfast room. Please Call our Regional Office on 01959 561 499

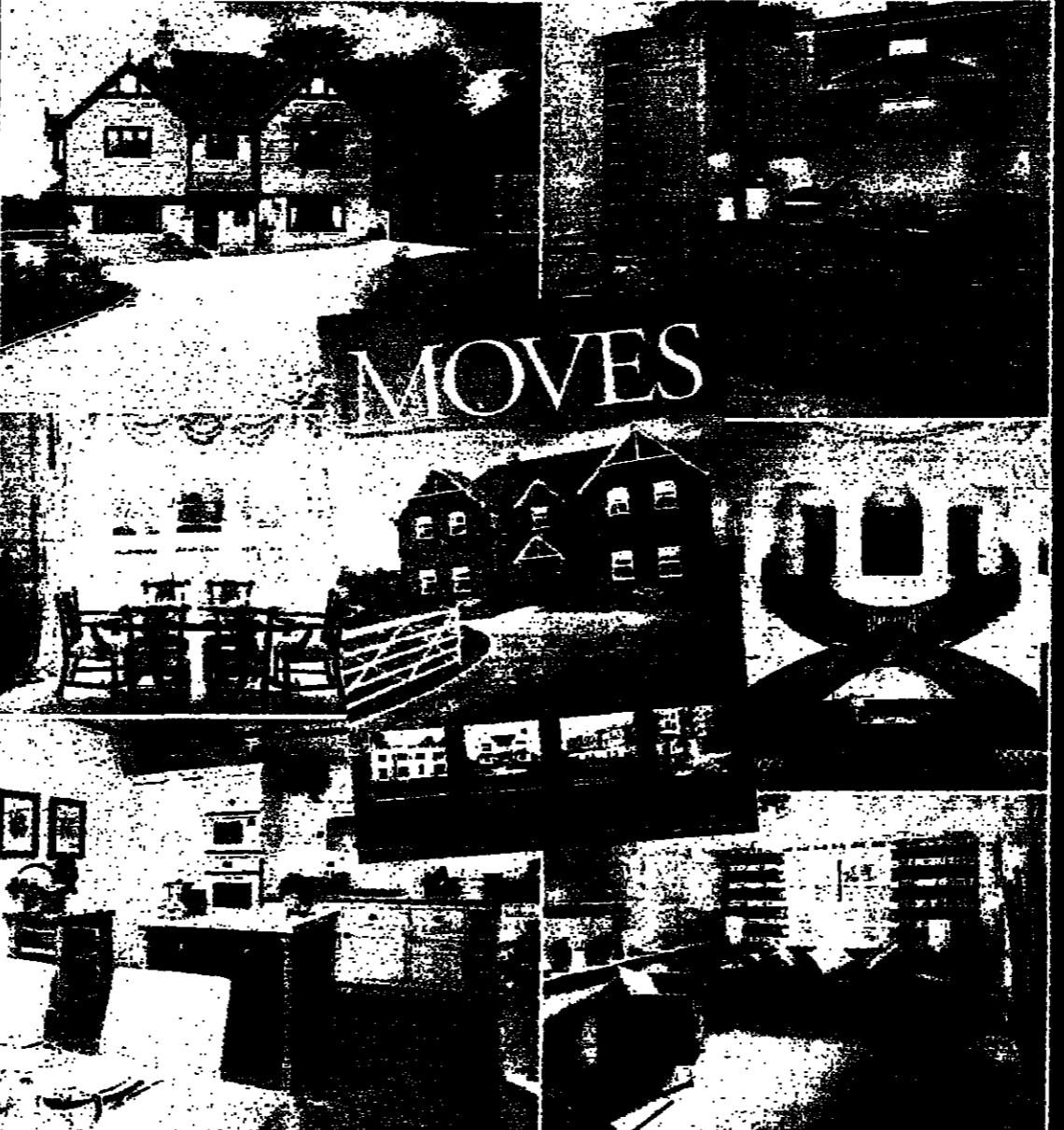
**London**  
**EC3** £210,000 to £430,000  
**15 Trinity Square.** Sixteen 1 and 2 bedroom apartments, most with outstanding views across the Tower of London to Tower Bridge and the River Thames.  
 Please Call our City of London Office on 07000 NU HOME 6 8 4 6 6 3

Please send me a copy of 'MOVES', the complete listing of new homes and forthcoming developments across London and the South East.

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_  
 Surname \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Simply fill in your details, and post to: Berkeley Homes T 11/98  
 Berkeley House, 19 Portsmouth Road, Cobham, Surrey KT11 1JG.

# Your best move begins with 'MOVES'



'MOVES' is a complete listing of properties located throughout London and the South East. Call your regional sales office today for your complimentary copy or return the coupon.

For information on any of the properties advertised in this listing, please contact your regional sales office. Telephone numbers are given in the listing. For a complete list of agents, please refer to the listing.

**London**  
**Wapping, E1** £300,000 to £750,000  
**Capital Water.** Eighty-five 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments and penthouses, most of which have south facing balconies overlooking the Thames with views towards Tower Bridge. Show apartments now open.  
 Please Call our City of London Office on 07000 NU HOME 6 8 4 6 6 3

**Clckenwell, EC1** From £160,000  
**25 Farringdon Road.** An exclusive development of one, two and three bedroom apartments set behind an exquisite landscaped garden.  
 Please Call our Site Office on 0171 831 2298

**Wimbledon** £215,000 to £580,000  
**Overseas.** Select development of town houses within grounds of a listed building, offering superb specifications, conservatories and private gardens. Only five remaining. Please Call our Regional Office on 01932 576 500

**Hampton, NW4** From £155,000  
**Cherry Tree Court.** A charming development of just six luxury two bedroom apartments benefiting from private parking and audio entry.  
 Please Call our Regional Office on 01454 787201

**Oxfordshire**  
**Fresland** £329,500  
**Wychnor House.** A single styled stone built 5 bedroom property with south-facing rear garden, situated in this 'North Oxford' village and convenient for the city and the Cotswolds. Please Call our Regional Office on 01235 537457

**Oxford** From £118,500 to £299,000  
**Oxford Waterside.** A unique development within a mile of the city, adjoining the Oxford Canal, 2 bedroom apartments and 3 and 4 bedroom homes.  
 Please Call our Regional Office on 01235 537457

**Stambridge** £375,000  
**Milberry House.** A stone built 5 bedroom detached family home situated in a 1 1/2 acre plot including paddock land, in this sought after village.  
 Please Call our Regional Office on 01235 537457

**Wallingford** From £130,000  
**Thameside Mansions.** A desirable mansion of ten 2 bedroom distinctive apartments, set in 2 1/2 acres of paddock. Also two converted cottages, 2 and 3 bedroom. Please Call our Regional Office on 01235 537457

**Surrey**  
**Leatherhead** £1.35million  
**Keston Lodge.** A stunning barn conversion, 8500 sq. ft. in 21 acres of rural countryside. Six bedroom suites, 6 reception, triple garage, staff annex and stabling. Please Call our Regional Office on 01932 576 500

**Orpington and Esher** £799,950 to £1,250,000  
**Single Plots.** A range of 5 bedroom detached homes, exceptional in specification and location, offering the opportunity to personalise to individual requirements.  
 Please Call our Regional Office on 01932 576 500

**Shackleton** £305,000 to £460,000  
**Cross Farm.** A superb selection of refurbished barns located in this idyllic green belt village south west of Guildford. Only 4 remaining.  
 Please Call our Regional Office on 01932 576 500

**Walton-on-Thames** £139,950 to £249,950  
**Victoria Gate, Queens Road.** A new development of apartments, town houses and detached houses offering quality and style within own grounds. Please call Sales Office Open. Please Call our Regional Office on 01932 576 500

**Virginia Water** £1.6million  
**Mastodon, Westnorbury Estate.** A substantial 5 bedroom detached house of character with gallery entrance hall, set in one acre of specialist landscaping.  
 Please Call our Regional Office on 01753 211511

**Sussex**  
**Nr Horsham** From £135,000  
**Holford Field.** A development of only fifteen 3, 4 and 5 bedroom semi-detached and detached properties, most of which back onto open farmland.  
 Please Call our Regional Office on 01403 211230

**Kingston** £94,950 to £179,950  
**22 Chertsey Court.** A development of distinctively styled 2 and 3 bedroom apartments, semi-detached and detached family homes located in this seaside village. Please Call our Regional Office on 01403 211230



**QUALITY TO APPRECIATE**

**ARKLEY - The Grange**  
 Stunning five bedroom detached country homes in a quiet rural setting.  
 Prices from £435,000 - £520,000.  
 Telephone 0181 441 2492.  
 Showhouse open\*.

**BUSHEY - Phoenix Court**  
 A superb development of three and four bedroom, two and three storey townhouses, some featuring balconies.  
 Prices from £210,000.  
 Telephone 0181 950 6885.  
 Showhouse open\*.

**CHESHUNT - Barleigh View**  
 An inspiring development of 18 five bedroom homes in 9 elevational styles.  
 Price guide from £294,950.  
 Telephone 01707 872500.  
 Sales office open\*.

**NORTHAW - Northaw Valley**  
 Coming soon, 26 executive homes set in a rural location, comprising five and three bedroom homes with stunning views.  
 To register on the waiting list please telephone 01992 627781.

**WATFORD - Langley Place**  
 An exclusive development of 22 townhouses situated within a short distance of Watford Town Centre.  
 Price guide from £200,000 - £220,000.  
 Telephone 01923 222212.

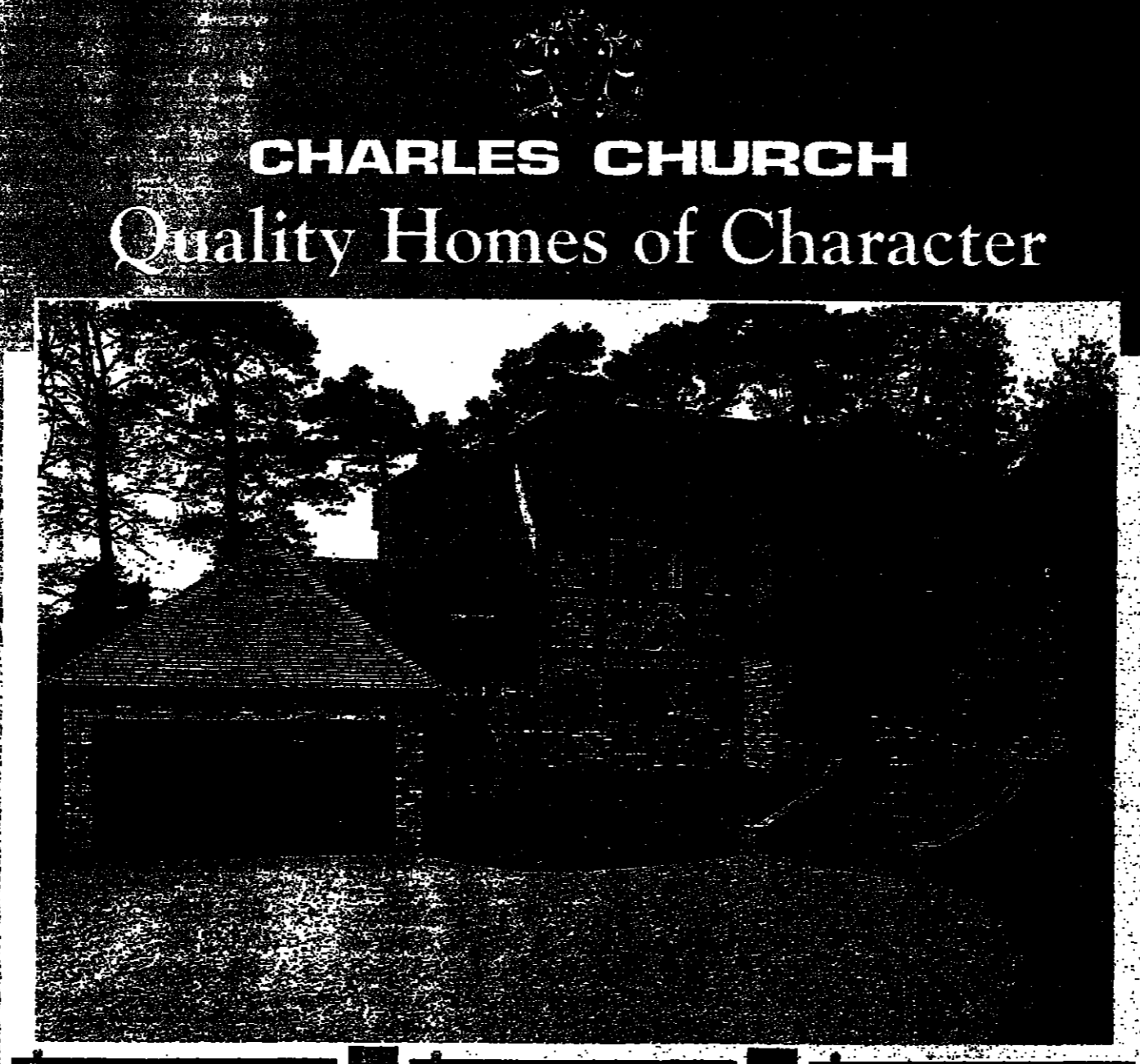
**WATFORD - Silverdell**  
 Coming soon, a development of 21 four and five bedroom homes featuring 12 different house types.  
 To register on the waiting list please telephone 0181 950 6885.

**EARLEY - Woodland Grove**  
 An exclusive development of 4 five bedroom homes in 3 elevational styles.  
 Prices from £310,000. Only two remaining.  
 Telephone 0118 9332355.

**CHARVIL - Charvil Park**  
 A popular development of two, three, four and five bedroom homes in Charvil village near Twyford.  
 Current prices from £154,000 - £280,000.  
 Telephone 0118 934 5099.  
 Showhouse open\*.

**CROWTHORNE - Ravens Court**  
 Two and three bedroom terraced homes and one and two bedroom apartments. 3 only remaining.  
 Price guide from £108,500 - £136,950.  
 Telephone 01344 352372.  
 Sales office open Thursday - Monday\*.

**For further details of current and forthcoming developments listed in our Sales Directory, please call any of our site sales offices listed above.**



## CHARLES CHURCH Quality Homes of Character

**BARNT GREEN - The Pine Coppice**  
 Coming soon... A development of 14 five bedroom homes in traditional elevational styles.  
 Prices from £112,000 - £210,000.  
 Telephone 01329 662565.  
 Showhouse now open. Thursday - Monday.

**STUBBINGTON - Spring Walk**  
 Spring Walk houses three, four and five bedroom homes in traditional elevational styles.  
 Prices from £112,000 - £210,000.  
 Telephone 01329 662565.  
 Showhouse now open. Thursday - Monday.

**MARLOW - Wethered Park**  
 Magnificent four and five bedroom townhouses, two bedroom cottages and two and three bedroom apartments.  
 Prices from £235,000 - £480,000.  
 Telephone 01628 475070.  
 Sales office open\*.

**SURBITON - Southborough Gardens**  
 Set in private grounds featuring two and three bedroom apartments and three and four bedroom townhouses.  
 Apartments price guide from £160,000.  
 Three bedroom townhouses price guide £290,000.  
 Four bedroom townhouses from £269,950.  
 Telephone 0181 39074004.  
 Showhouse open\*.

**BISLEY - Byron Place**  
 Coming soon... A development of 11 two and three bedroom homes in 2 popular house types. Price guide £110,000 - £150,000.  
 To register on the waiting list please telephone 01276 62912.

**WINDSOR - Scarlet Holmes**  
 Situated on the Windsor Estate, a superb five bedroom country home.  
 For further details please call:  
 Telephone 01753 808122.

**CANSHAMPTON - Woodrose Park**  
 Just 36 km from the city, a superb development of a variety of traditional elevational designs.  
 Price guide from £300,000.  
 Telephone 01991 770 0916.

**CAMBERLEY - Pines Wood**  
 A development of 12 five bedroom homes in 2 elevational styles. Price guide from £355,000 and £365,000.  
 Telephone 01276 62912.

**CAMBERLEY - Grosvenor Place**  
 A superb development of one, two and three bedroom houses including townhouses. Set in prime grounds and based around a Georgian square theme.  
 Two bedroom apartments from £309,000.  
 Three bedroom townhouses from £172,950.  
 Telephone 01276 62912.  
 Showhouse open\*.

**CHILDFORD - Overthorpe**  
 Coming soon... 2 exclusive five bedroom houses with stunning views close to Childford town centre.  
 Price guide £900,000 - £950,000.  
 To register on the waiting list please telephone 01438 496806.

**LIGHTWATER - Applebide**  
 A single plot featuring a new five bedroom Charles Church house to Lightwater.  
 Price £335,000.  
 Telephone 01276 62912.

**WINDSOR - Kingsmead**  
 Offering four bedroom townhouses and two and three bedroom apartments and townhouses.  
 Apartments from £245,000.  
 Townhouses from £365,000.  
 Telephone 0181 398 3662.  
 Sales office open Thursday - Monday\*.

**SOUTH WITFIELD - Chestnut Grove**  
 Set in a beautiful Surrey village, 4 magnificent five bedroom detached homes with superb specification.  
 Price guide £400,000.  
 To register on the waiting list please telephone 01737 769164.

**BANSTEAD - Beechholme Place**  
 A development of 22 four bedroom homes on the North side of Banstead.  
 Price guide £200,000.  
 Telephone 01737 362534.

**WENTWORTH - Heatheride Lodge**  
 Soon to be released, an imposing five bedroom home in West Drive situated on the exclusive Wentworth Estate.  
 For further details please telephone 01276 808122.

\*All sales offices and showhouses are open every day from 10.00am to 5.00pm. Prices and availability correct at time of going to press.

# Wanted: a tenant who yearns to live in the past

Fans of the future need not apply. Conservation charity the National Trust is seeking a tenant with "a keen interest in medieval history" to occupy the Treasurer's House in Somerset. The rent is £750 per month.

**Adam Barnard**  
on a 13th-century historic treasure that is yours for just £750 a month

Dating back to the 13th century, the four-bedroom home in Martock, near Ilminster, has recently been refurbished by the trust. The house was once used by the Treasurer of Wells Cathedral and the Rector of Martock.

"You don't have to be an academic." Of particular historical interest are the great hall, the screens passage, the medieval kitchen, which has an arched hamstone doorway and ecclesiastical-style windows, and the solar room, in which a medieval wall painting depicting a crucifixion scene was recently uncovered.

open to the public every Sunday, Monday and Tuesday between 2pm and 5pm. The tenant will be expected to organise tours and volunteer stewards. Ms Castle says: "It will probably be best suited to someone who either works from home or is retired."

The house is set within a large garden, with two secluded wall gardens and a stream. As well as looking after the house, tenants will be asked to carry out planting, fencing and hedging.

The historian John Henry Parker described the Treasurer's House as "a most remarkable building" in his book, *Some Account of Domestic Architecture*, published 1859.

Simon Clothier, of Symonds & Sampson, says: "There has been a great deal of interest, though some people were under the mistaken impression that the National Trust would be paying them."



Testament to yesterday: the National Trust seeks a tenant with "an interest in medieval history" for the Treasurer's House, Somerset

# How Kelly's Eastern look promises to take the stress out of life

**Amanda Loose**  
meets a woman whose designs can have a soothing effect



Kelly Hoppen: "If someone had asked me to fly to the Moon to redecorate it, I would have done"

Kelly Hoppen is busy. Her client list stretches well into next year. Her first interior decorating book, *East Meets West*, was published in America in January and she is in the middle of working on a range of interiors accessories to be launched in the autumn.

A second book is in the pipeline, a fabric collection will be available later this month and, to top it all, Ms Hoppen is planning to revamp her own London home.

With a fashionable client list that she keeps strictly mum about, except for insisting that despite rumours Elton John is not among them, Ms Hoppen is famous for her eclectic interiors, which she describes in *East Meets West* as "global design for contemporary living".

Mixing the oriental with the African and the occidental, and modern, uncluttered design with flashes of the exotic is the Hoppen trademark. Neutral backgrounds are dashed with rich reds and greens, while furs and suedes are combined with cottons, mixing cultures and styles with Eastern balance.

Ms Hoppen says: "I like to think of all the things which would shock if you put them together. I am inspired by my travels. I have travelled widely and have always loved things from other countries."

"This really goes back to my grandmother's home in South Africa, which was filled with things from all over the world."

"Every time I visit Paris for the weekend to go shopping, something there will inspire me and I will use it at some point. We all lead such an incredibly stressful existence and need to chill out when we are at home. The Eastern look is very simple and uncluttered."

This is the simple base to which she then adds, bringing in touches of Africa, the Middle Ages and the West.

"We need homes we can grow into, something individual. It's like buying a designer suit. You can buy that designer's accessories and become their product, a carbon copy. But if you just buy the suit and add your own accessories, then you create something individual. My style is individual. If glossy magazines are anything to go by, last year her name was coined adjectivally by *Time*, saying "Oh, that's very Kelly Hoppen."

Clients, meanwhile, will often receive a call from Ms Hoppen after she has finished the job. She may tell them she has seen something that would be ideal for their home, and where they can see it. Ms Hoppen started work as a designer shortly after she went to university. She started by doing up someone's kitchen and worked on the designs from one of the rooms in her flat.

She says: "I look at my 14-year-old daughter Natasha and realise I was fearless then. I didn't really think about what I was doing. If someone had asked me to fly to the Moon to redecorate it, I would have done. But I suppose I always had it in me. My mother says I was continually shifting things in our rooms at home."

But despite her celebrity follow-

ing, Ms Hoppen retains a loyal clientele "from all walks of life" and her accessories collection, which will include scented candles, bed linen and cushions with her famous buttons, will enable people to re-create the look.

"We often get calls from people who, for example, want to get hold of our table runners and know how to get the look in their own homes."

Ms Hoppen advises: "The Eastern style is uncluttered. You need to start with a simple palette and be very brave about taking things away. Start slowly because it takes time to perfect."

"Introduce classic blue and white china - which you can put with anything - and then bronze objects. Arrange things like plants symmetrically, and add black and red Chinese scroll boxes."

*East Meets West* is published by Conran Octopus at £25.

## Katherine Bergen learns how to reclaim "erotic space"

Forget feng shui and how to make your money corner more auspicious. Forget adopting a particular furnishing style such as English Country House, Shaker or Minimalist. Create, instead, a sensual home that does not depend on a particular look but on looser, more expansive features such as quiet, comfort and light.

Ilse Crawford, the editor of *Elle Decoration* magazine and the author of *Sensual Home* (Quadrille, £19.99), is well aware that such themes can be interpreted in any number of ways. (She is so much in favour of indulging the senses that her book even sports a furry cover.) But she has plenty of good ideas, which she presents with fascinating historical detail, even if she does also occasionally become rather breathless, urging us to reclaim our "erotic space".

"All evidence of truth comes only from the senses," wrote Nietzsche. Crawford adds that this was before the philosopher went mad and fell in love with a horse at a cab rank in Milan, which is not, perhaps, an entirely unsensual thing to do.

Crawford's premise is simple: the home is a haven from the stresses of life and there are ways to enhance its atmosphere. She is a great believer in natural smells: cedarwood hangers instead of mothballs, or essential oils, rather than chemical deodorisers, which can be used in rings over lightbulbs in lamps and give off perfume as the bulb heats up.

She suggests using rose heads in fruit bowls or strewn on the table for parties. For everyday use put rose petals (as well as pansy, borage, nasturtium and marigold) in teas, in salads, in jugs of water or in the bath.

But she warns against going as far as the Roman Emperor Nero, who spent the equivalent of £90,000 on rose petals, which dropped from the ceiling of his Golden House, suffocating several guests.

Plants can be natural humidifiers in the home as well as taking pollutants and carbon dioxide out of the air, replacing it with oxygen. The peace lily (*Spathiphyllum* sp.) is especially effective for removing

## Red scheme at night, sensual delight

### A BOOK FOR BEDTIME



Let the sun shine in: sensual homes need plenty of windows and natural light

a food processor can reach the same decibel level as a chainsaw - can always be repositioned. Buy gadgets that "gently trill". For telephones she recommends the British 700 type (1969) from General Dare (01705 254 275 for stockists) or the Sony portable.

It is also possible to insulate machines or the surfaces on which they stand. Ceramic tiled floors, although hard, are completely sealed with grout and will not conduct as much sound as wooden floors.

Linoleum, vinyl and rubber absorb sound well, especially if they have a soft foam backing. Carpet, along with sisal, seagrass and coir matting, absorbs ten times more airborne noise and virtually eliminates impact noise.

Ionisers create a negative charge in the air and can make a definite improvement to the indoor environment, destroying airborne particles and removing smoke and some allergens, as well as aiding oxygen intake. When using an ioniser, point it towards yourself, as the effect is directional. Turn it off during the day if using it at night and vice versa as the change in ion concentration is important for the metabolism.

As Winston Churchill once said: "We shape our buildings, thereafter they shape us." But it is possible to affect the sense of space in a building. The author offers various solutions such as eliminating corridor space as this can make a place feel confined and dingy. Open out several rooms into one and use folding walls or screens where needed. Internal windows, glazed or open, can help to spread light around.

Replacing the two top panels of a four-panel door with glass can have the same effect, while raising the height of doors appears to raise the height of the ceiling.

As for reclaiming that erotic space, paint your bedroom red - the colour promotes courage, passion and sexuality, as well as raising the metabolic rate. And fill the room with candles, which have been used to enhance an ambience since they were invented in 400 AD.

# Taking the rough with the smooth in an uplifting career

Another inside story from the trade: what goes on when you move house

## THE REMOVAL MAN'S TALE

We go all over the country and everywhere is different. If you go to Birmingham you know you will have grief one way or another. In Glasgow you need a knife, and if you go to Swansea you know you will not be home for three days because you will be partying. In Rotham you will find road rage. God knows why.

The worst place to move things from is the kitchen, there is always stuff which is greasy or there are high areas which are dusty. The best homes are where the millionaires live because they have cleaners in and everywhere is immaculate.

Some rich women are worse than people on social security, though. The minute they get a wedding ring on their finger they think it gives them a licence to be filthy. It is as if they have some God-given right to live in a pigsty. They dress immaculately but you wouldn't want to go in their homes and there is never a tip when you move them. I have been in tower block estates and they are immaculate by comparison.

That said, there was one housing trust where the whole estate was infested with cockroaches. We were moving a cooker and you have never seen anything like it, have never seen a cockroach alive. It was the fault of the guy who lived there. God bless him; he was running round like a headless

chicken trying to get them with a brush.

We get some nice clients. There was a middle-aged lady, pretty fit-looking, with a two-bed cottage and a lot full of heirlooms. There was no heavy lifting and it was money for old rope. She gave me £160. There were some old blankets and she asked me to have them sent to Oxford, but they are great for packing old antiques and they are still in the van.

On the other hand, there was a job when we had to clear out a load of old furniture from a place being sold as a vacant possession. The garage was three-quarters full of furniture, as well as a vat of acid which had been left there. We only got £80 for that job. We knew we would have a load of grief dumping it. Some of the acid spilled on the pavement and the concrete turned green. Out came the rubber gloves and we took it down to a tip for household waste. There was a big hole with a chute at the tip, and we rolled the drum into it.

Then there was the time we moved some nurses from their quarters at Edgware Hospital. You think nurses are poor as

anything and I only wanted money for petrol and a drink for myself. I said £20 each. When we turned up, the entrance had a notice saying "nurses only". Then when we eventually got to their rooms I have never seen rooms so small. They were full of stuff, though, like the Fairies, and we filled the van to squeaking point with microwaves and fridges. I don't know how they got it all in their rooms.

Well, we got them to the house they were going to in Edgware and they went to a pub to have a drink with them. These nurses were Irish power-drinkers; we were well out of it in the end. The girls gave us £15 each, but we spent £30 on drink.

Another time we had this writing bureau to take to an antiques show in the West End. It was all antiques, and as my mate dragged it out of the van the veneer just sort of snapped off. My mate went to the cab in the lorry and got some Evoxik and some dust from the kerbside and smashed the glue with the dust then stuck the veneer back on. They didn't even notice.

The only people around when we delivered it were prostitutes.

but someone probably bought it. Then there was also the time my mate was delivering a mirror and the frame was handmade and worth around the £1000 mark. He left the van door open while they were doing something else and when they came back the thing had disappeared.

We have delivered freezers for well-known firms and some of them, when you come to unbox them, are worse than the stuff you are taking away. Fridge-freezers are a bit temperamental when they have been shunted.

I have delivered a fridge-freezer on my own. In our game, if you see someone lifting things in a way that could injure them, you pull them up on it. I have had things dropped on my feet.

You do get things which are difficult or impossible to get out. People move things in then change the windows or the doors and then it's stuck inside.

We had people in Wales who rang up to get a credit note because we had taken a fridge away and they said they had left a pat of butter in it. They got £20. It's a scam. We had one bloke who came down to see us. Blear-eyed, he had been in the pub all day and his wife had given us an old microwave to take away. She had left his dinner in it.

As told to Eve-Anne Prentice

